



County Borough of Merthyr Tydfil

PUBLIC HEALTH 1954

T. H. STEPHENS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health





County Borough of Merthyr Tydfil

PUBLIC HEALTH 1954

T. H. STEPHENS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

Index

General Introduction

- Part I — Committees and Staff.
- Part II — General and Comparative Statistics.
- Part III — Maternity and Child Welfare.
- Part IV — The Incidence and Control of Infectious and
Other Diseases.
- Part V — Welfare, Mental Health, Ambulance and other
Allied Services.
- Part VI — Sanitary Inspection and Housing.
- Part VII — The Inspection and Supervision of Food.
-

INDEX.

Ambulance Services	65-68
Ante-Natal Clinics	41
Births	19
Blind Persons	70-72
Boarded-out Children	47
Cerebral Palsy	72
Chest Clinic	52
Committees—Blind and Other Welfare	11
Children's	11
Health	10
Maternity and Child Welfare	10
Mental Health	11
Welfare Services	10
Common Lodging Houses	81
Condemnation of Foodstuffs	94-95
Dental Services	45-46
Deaths—General	21-33
Analysis	22-23
Age Periods	21
Fatal Accidents, etc.	25
Infant	30-32
Residents occurring outside the Borough	24
Various Causes	26-29
Diphtheria Immunisation	51
Disinfestation	83
Epileptics	73
Employment and Industry	35
Fertilizers and Feeding Stuffs Act	98
Food Preparation Premises	98
Food Sampling	96-97
Factories Act	86-88
General Introduction	7
Gwaunfarren Maternity Hospital	45
Housing Inspection	84-85
Houses Let-in-Lodgings	81
Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Act	80
Ice-cream	98
Infant Welfare Clinics	42
Infectious Diseases—General	49-60
Diphtheria	51
Measles	51
Scarlet Fever	51
Tuberculosis	52-54,60
Whooping Cough	55

INDEX—*continued*

Laboratory Investigations—Ante-Natal Specimens	41
Pathological Specimens	56
Water	92-93
Location of Clinics	40
Mardy Isolation Hospital—General	57-60
Cases from Various Areas	57-59
Tuberculosis	60
Marriages	20
Maternal Mortality	30
Meat Inspection	91,92
Milk Examination	90
Ministry of Labour—Insured Persons	36-37
Medical Examinations of Employees	62
National Health Service Act 1946—General	41-45
Ambulance Service	65-68
Care of Mothers & Young Children	41-42
Domestic Help	62
Health Visiting	42
Home Nursing	61
Midwifery	42-43
Mental Health	68-69
National Assistance Act 1948	70-72
Offensive Trades	81
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	45
Ophthalmic Treatment	70-72
Post-Natal Clinic	41
Partially Sighted Persons	72
Pharmacy and Poisons Act	80
Pontsarn Sanatorium	60
Population	19
Prematurity	43-44
Prosecutions	82-83
Puerperal Pyrexia	45
Public Cleansing	83
Refreshment Houses Act	80
Retail Food Shops	94
Retroental Fibroplasia	71-72
Rodent Control	78-79
Sanitary Inspections	76-77
Shops Act	80
Slaughterhouses	92
Slaughter of Animals Act	92
Spastics	73

INDEX—*continued*.

Staff—Medical	12
Nursing	13
Sanitary Inspectors	12
Clerical	14
Welfare	13
Statistics, General	15-37
Stillbirths	19
St. Tydfil's Hospital	45
Tuberculosis	52-54
Vaccination	61
Venereal Diseases	55-56
Water and Sewage Analysis	92-93
Welfare Foods	47
Welfare Services	70-72

DIAGRAMS AND GRAPHS :

Fig. 1. Birth Rate—Death Rate 1930-1954	17
Fig. 2. T.B. Death Rate—1930-1954	18
Fig. 3. Proportions of Deaths—Principal Causes	27
Fig. 4. Proportions of Deaths—Various Ages	28
Fig. 5. Infant Death Rate—1930-1954	33
Fig. 6. Proportions of Persons Employed in Various Industries 1954	34

COUNTY BOROUGH OF MERTHYR TYDFIL

**Department of Public Health,
Town Hall,
MERTHYR TYDFIL**

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the County
Borough of Merthyr Tydfil.*

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my twenty-second Annual Report upon the health of the County Borough of Merthyr Tydfil.

The Death Rate is 13.69 as compared with 14.19 per thousand of the population in 1953 and the Still Birth Rate is 42.4 compared with 51.4 in 1953. The Tuberculosis Death Rate shows a slight increase but is still the second lowest ever recorded. The Infant Mortality Rate is practically the same but much higher than the rest of the country. Investigations are going on with regard to the high Infant Mortality Rate and the Still-Birth Rate. The major killing disease was Heart Disease which, of course, is a terminal condition and lots are labelled heart disease when there are other major conditions contributing to it. Malignant disease takes its usual high toll. Details of the causes of death are given in diagrammatic and table form in Part 2 of the Report.

I omitted to mention last year, that an enquiry was held by the Ministry of Health with regard to a Compulsory Purchase Order put forward by the Merthyr Corporation as far as Riverside was concerned. This Compulsory Purchase Order was confirmed early in 1953 and 27 houses were demolished by the end of 1953—168 people from the area were re-housed from these houses. In 1876 this area was described by Dr. Dyke, as miserable and dilapidated and more filthy than 'China' a neighbouring area across the Morlais Brook. It has taken us a long time to demolish these buildings but they are down at last.

During the year a further 172 houses were completed—this rate of re-housing, of course, is very slow, and there may be a perfectly good explanation for it, but the needs of the Borough require an accelerated tempo with regard to the erection of houses.

I wish to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their continued support and sympathetic consideration to the problems of public health and to the members of my staff who worked well and conscientiously during the year.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. H. Stephens,

*Medical Officer of Health
Principal School Medical Officer*

PART 1.

Committees and Staff

COUNTY BOROUGH OF MERTHYR TYDFIL. 1954

His Worship The Mayor :
Councillor Morgan Osborne, J.P.

The Deputy Mayor :
Councillor Charles E. Webb, J.P.

The Ex-Mayor : Alderman J. G. Davies, J.P.

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman : Councillor W. S. Owen
Vice-Chairman : Alderman J. G. Davies

The Whole Council
Namely :—

Aldermen T. J. Evans, M.B.E. D. O'Driscoll, T. J. Lloyd, F. Everson, C. Stanfield, Mrs. G. I. Williams and H. I. Williams, M.B.E.,
Councillors D. J. Morgan, T. Y. Lewis, W. Sheene, S. Davies, C. J. Griffiths, Mrs. M. McPhail, R. J. Baker, I. Davies, Mrs. A. Dawes, C. E. Webb, M. Osborne, W. J. James, W. Powell, B. Watkins, W. W. Herbert, B. M. Davies, A. H. Sier, M. McGinty, D. Jones, D. R. Tudor, S. G. Edwards, D. J. Evans and C. W. Bridges.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE

Chairman : Councillor A. H. Sier
Vice-Chairman : Councillor Mrs. A. Dawes

Alderman D. O'Driscoll	Alderman C. Stanfield
Alderman Mrs. G. I. Williams	Alderman H. I. Williams
Councillor D. J. Morgan	Councillor W. Sheene
Councillor Mrs. M. McPhail	Councillor B. Watkins
Councillor W. Powell	Councillor B. M. Davies
Councillor M. McGinty	Councillor S. G. Edwards

with

The Mayor

The Ex-Mayor

and

Councillor W. S. Owen (*Chairman of the Health Committee*)
Alderman J. G. Davies (*Vice-Chairman of the Health Committee*)

WELFARE SERVICES COMMITTEE

<i>Chairman :</i>	Councillor D. J. Morgan
<i>Vice-Chairman :</i>	Councillor R. J. Baker
Alderman T. J. Evans	Alderman D. O'Driscoll
Alderman F. Everson	Alderman Mrs. G. I. Williams
Councillor S. Davies	Councillor Mrs. M. McPhail
Councillor I. Davies	Councillor Mrs. A. Dawes

Councillor B. Watkins	Councillor B. M. Davies
Councillor W. W. Herbert	Councillor D. Jones
Councillor C. W. Bridges	Councillor S. G. Edwards

with

The Mayor

The Ex-Mayor

and

Councillor W. S. Owen (*Chairman of the Health Committee*)

Alderman J. G. Davies (*Vice-Chairman of the Health Committee*)

BLIND AND OTHER WELFARE SERVICES COMMITTEE

Chairman : Councillor Mrs. M. McPhail

Vice-Chairman : Councillor W. J. James

Alderman C. Stanfield

Alderman Mrs. G. I. Williams

Alderman H. I. Williams

Councillor W. Sheene

Councillor T. Lewis

Councillor R. J. Baker

Councillor I. Davies

Councillor C. E. Webb

Councillor W. Powell

Councillor A. H. Sier

Councillor D. J. Evans

with

The Mayor

The Ex-Mayor

and

Councillor W. S. Owen (*Chairman of the Health Committee*)

Alderman J. G. Davies (*Vice-Chairman of the Health Committee*)

and

Four Representatives of the Merthyr and Mid-Wales Blind Institute

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES COMMITTEE

Chairman : Councillor W. Sheene

Vice-Chairman : Alderman C. Stanfield

Alderman D. O'Driscoll

Alderman F. Everson

Alderman Mrs. G. I. Williams

Councillor D. J. Morgan

Councillor C. J. Griffiths

Councillor Mrs. M. McPhail

Councillor I. Davies

Councillor M. McGinty

Councillor D. Jones

Councillor S. G. Edwards

with

The Mayor

The Ex-Mayor

and

Councillor W. S. Owen (*Chairman of the Health Committee*)

Alderman J. G. Davies (*Vice-Chairman of the Health Committee*)

CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE

Chairman : Councillor Mrs. A. Dawes

Vice-Chairman : Councillor A. H. Sier

Alderman F. Everson

Alderman Mrs. G. I. Williams

Councillor D. J. Morgan

Councillor Mrs. M. McPhail

Councillor I. Davies

Councillor S. G. Edwards

with

The Mayor

The Ex-Mayor

MEDICAL STAFF

Medical Officer of Health, Principal School Medical Officer, Medical Superintendent, Mardy Isolation Hospital, Medical Officer under the Mental Deficiency Acts :

T. H. Stephens, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officers and School Medical Officers :

Dilys Stephens, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Monica Parry-Morton, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch.

E. A. Marsden, M.B., B.Ch.

Part-time Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon :

A. O. Parker, M.D., C.M.

Part-time Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon :

Rupert Parry, M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S.

Part-time Ear, Nose and Throat Specialists :

Hector Thomas, F.R.C.S.

Alan Thomas, F.R.C.S.

Part-time Paediatrician :

Professor A. G. Watkins

F. W. Nash, M.D., B.S., M.R.C.S., M.R.C.P.

Part-time Psychiatrist :

G. N. Lacey, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.M.

Dental Officers :

F. S. Baguley, L.D.S.

J. A. Wylie, L.D.S.

Public Analyst and Official Analyst under the Fertilizers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926 :

D. Evans Jones, M.Sc., F.R.I.C.

SANITARY INSPECTORATE

Chief Sanitary Inspector and Food Inspector, Official Sampler and Inspector under the Fertilizers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926 :

Iorwerth Thomas (a.b.)

Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector :

D. A. Jones, A.I.Hsg. (a.b.)

Sanitary Inspectors and Food Inspectors :

C. G. Stuckey (a.b.)

V. D. L. Prothero (a.b.)

J. B. Jones (a.b.)

Sanitary Inspector and Shops Act Inspector :

D. C. N. Davis (a.)

Rodent Officer :

G. A. Price

Disinfection and Disinfestation Staff :

A. Andrews.

G. W. Foran.

W. G. Foster

NURSING STAFF

Superintendent Nursing Officer, Superintendent School Nurse and Home Help Organiser :

A. L. Evans (c.d.e.)

Health Visitors and School Nurses :

E. J. Watkins (c.d.e.)

D. Jenkins (c.d.e.)

M. F. Jelleyman (c.d.e.f.g.)

M. Griffiths (c.d.e.)

C. Jones (c.d.)

S. Jones (c.e.h.)

J. A. Lewis (c.d.e.)

A. Meredith (c.d.e.)

M. Jones (c.h.e.)

Domiciliary Midwives :

B. Lewis (d.), H. Davies (d.), B. M. Jones (c.d.), E. A. Gillam (c.d.), L. Daley (d.), K. Lovis (c.d.), M. Williams (c.d.f.), D. Jones (c.d.f.), A. E. Davies (c.d.), G. M. Warrior (c.d.).

District Nurses :

M. Nicholas (c.g.), S. J. Lewis (c.), F. Evans (c.f.), A. M. Clements (c.d.f.), E. J. Evans (c.), E. Wright (c.f.), E. E. Thomas (c.f.g.), B. Whitford Jones (c.f.g.), O. Davies (c.f.), H. McDonald (c.f.), M. Lloyd (c.d.) (Relief), H. Davies (c.d.) (Relief), M. Hinton (c.d.) (Part-time).

Dental Nurse :

M. Evans (retired December 1954)

Dental Technician :

L. Mytton

WELFARE FOODS DISTRIBUTION

D. Evans; C. Spillane (commenced June, 1954)

WELFARE SERVICES

Director of Welfare :

Bryn Roberts

Duly Authorised Officer :

F. Jennings

Clerical Staff :

T. Barlow.

T. Morris.

Pentrebach House Home for Aged Men :

Superintendent : C. Adler

Staff : One Cook, two Female Attendants, Two Male Attendants, One Porter/Handyman and Two General Domestic.

Pant House Home for Aged Females :

Staff : Two Female Attendants, One General Domestic

AMBULANCE SERVICE

Ambulance Officer :

J. A. Williams

Staff : Seventeen Drivers, One Mechanic and One Assistant Mechanic.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND CLERICAL STAFF

Chief Administrative Officer :

Terry Thomas (a.)

Deputy Chief Administrative Officer :

J. R. Jones

Clerical Staff :

W. K. Jones

I. Protheroe*

N. Vaughan

Joan Thomas

M. Jones

S. Treen

Clerical Staff (Clinics) :

S. J. Lewis

G. Evans

P. Owens (Part-year)

D. Vaughan (Commenced 1954)

 KEY :

- a. — Sanitary Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Society for the Promotion of Health and The Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Board.
- b. — Meat and Other Foods Certificate of the Royal Society for the Promotion of Health.
- c. — State Registered Nurse.
- d. — State Certified Midwife.
- e. — Health Visitor's Certificate of the Royal Society for the Promotion of Health.
- f. — Registered Fever Nurse.
- g. — Queen's Nurse's Certificate.
- h. — Central Midwives Board Examination Part I.
- * — Also acts as Assistant Duly Authorised Officer

PART 2.

General and Comparative Statistics

VITAL STATISTICS—1954.

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	17,760
Population (Census 1951)	...	...	...	...	...	61,093
Population (Registrar General Mid-year Estimate)	...	...	...	...	...	59,700
Density of population per acre (1951 Census)	...	...	...	...	...	3.4399
Number of houses on Rate Books in 1954	...	...	...	...	...	17,370
Number of Shops/houses	...	...	...	...	...	442
Number of Shops	...	...	...	...	...	462
Number of Farms	...	...	...	...	...	68
Number of Inns and Clubs	...	...	...	...	...	168
Average number of persons to each occupied house (1954)	...	...	...	...	...	3.44
Legitimate Live Births	Male 435 Female 418	Total 853	Total Live Births ... 880			
Illegitimate Live Births	Male 13 Female 14	Total 27				
Live Birth Rate per thousand population	...	...	...	...	...	14.74
* Corrected Live Birth Rate per thousand population	...	...	...	...	...	14.89
Stillbirths :	Male 21 Female 18	Total Stillbirths	...	...	...	39
Still birth rate per thousand births	...	...	...	...	...	42.43
Total Births Live & Still	Male 469 Female 450	Total Births, Live & Still...	...	...	...	919
Total Birth Rate per thousand population	...	...	...	...	...	15.39
* Corrected Total Birth Rate per thousand population	...	...	...	...	...	15.54
Deaths :	Male 463 Female 354	Total Deaths	...	...	...	817
Death Rate per thousand population	...	...	...	...	...	13.69
† Corrected Death Rate per thousand population	...	...	...	...	...	13.82
Infant Mortality Rate	...	...	...	...	...	47.73
Death Rate from Principal Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Respiratory T.B. Death Rate (rate per million population)	...	...	...	...	...	318
Non-Respiratory T.B. Death Rate (rate per million popul'n)	...	...	...	...	...	33.5
Malignant Neoplasms Death Rate per thousand population	...	...	...	...	...	2.13

* Registrar General's Comparability Factor of 1.01. for Births

† Registrar General's Comparability Factor of 1.01. for Deaths

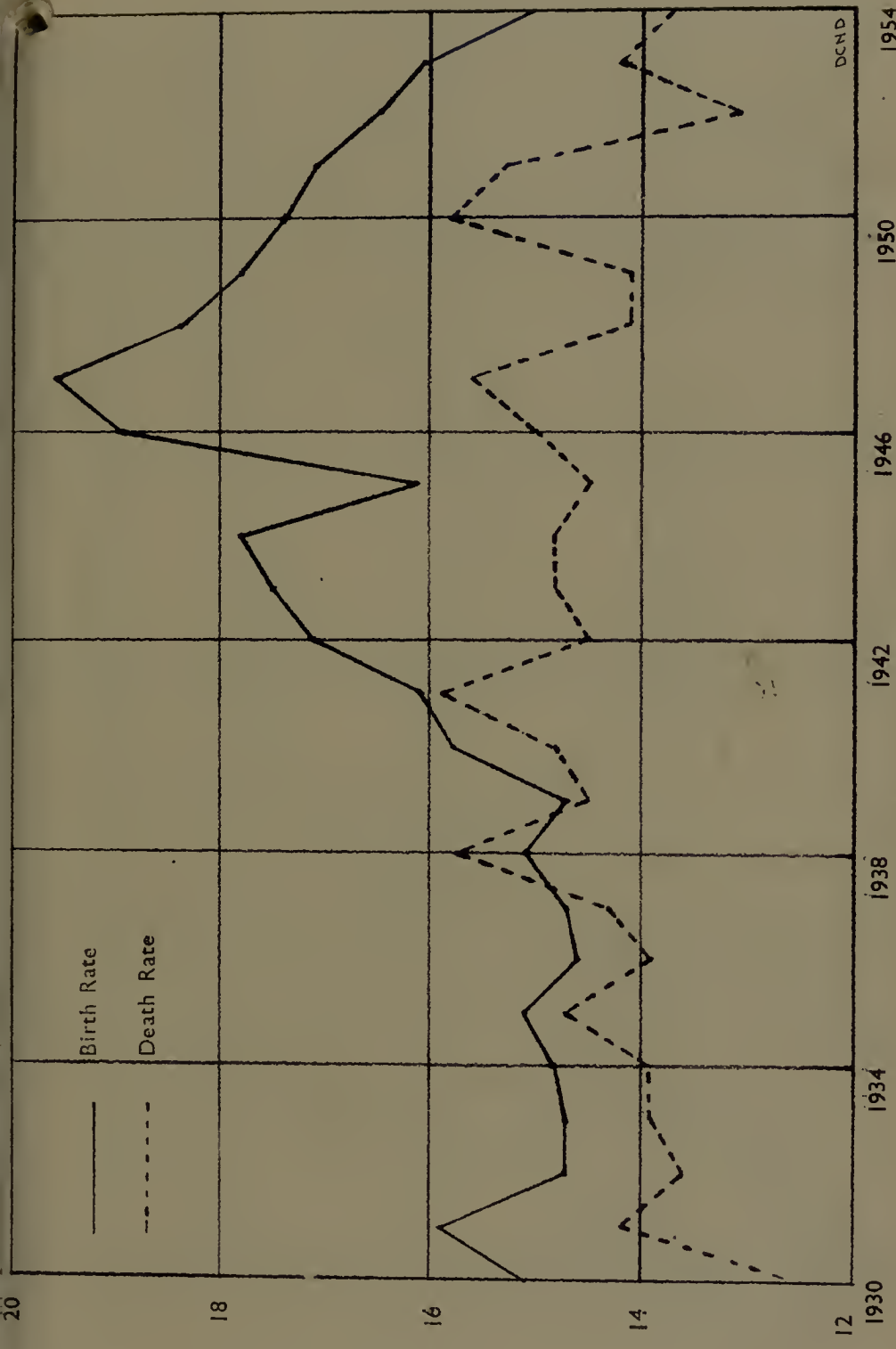


Fig. 1.—BIRTH RATE AND DEATH RATE 1930-1954
(Rates per Thousand Population)

DCND

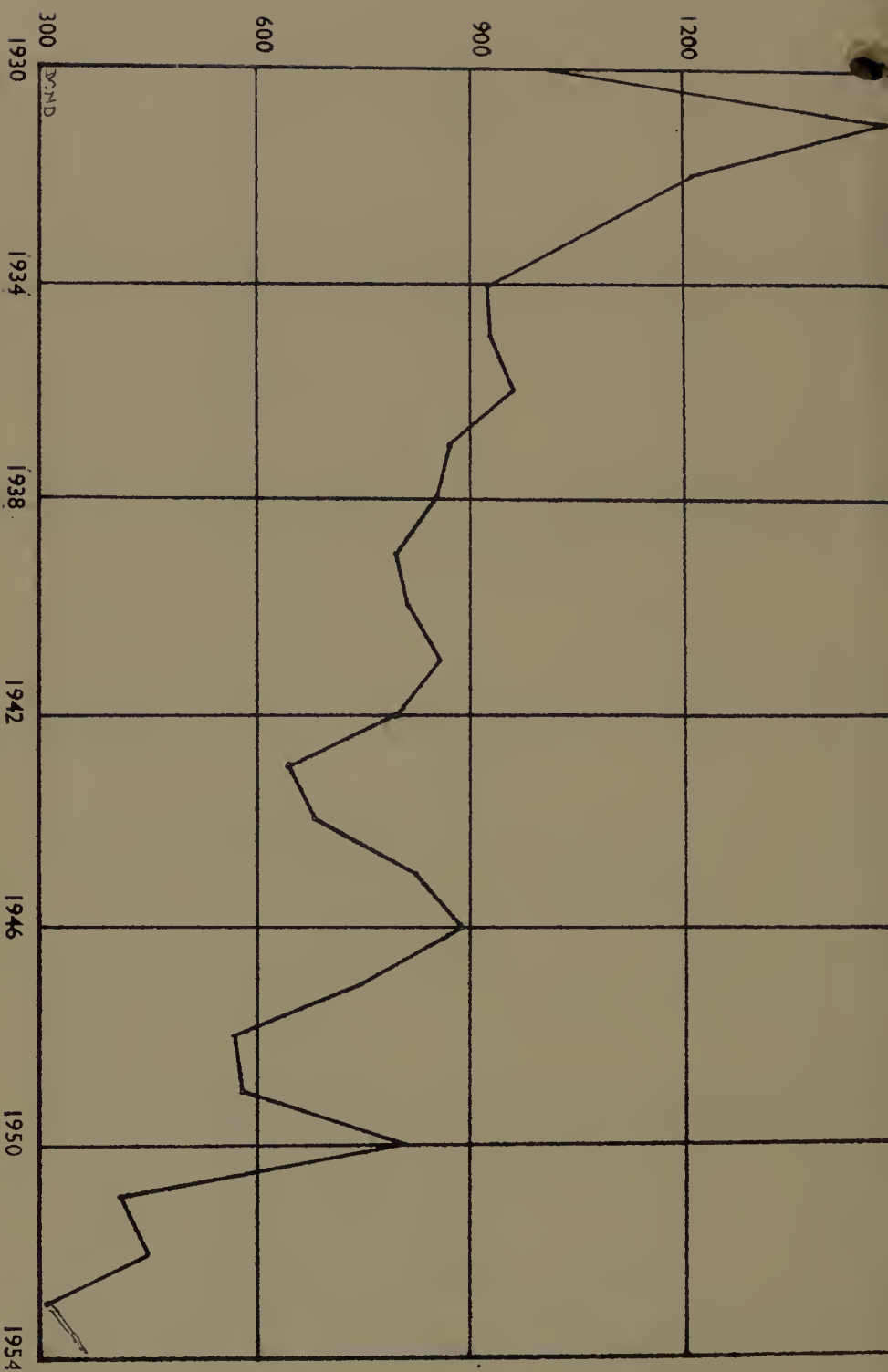


FIG. 2. TUBERCULOSIS (ALL FORMS) DEATH RATE, 1930-1954.
(Rate Per Million Population Shown)

POPULATION

The Registrar General's estimated population for mid-year 1954 was 59,700 which was a decrease of 100 from the previous year.

In 1801 Merthyr Tydfil had a population of 7,705 ; this figure gradually increased until the limit was reached one hundred and twelve years later in 1913 when a population of 85,414 was recorded. This total decreased steadily during the ensuing thirty years and in 1945, the Registrar General's Mid-year Estimate reached the low limit of 59,620. Since then it has increased gradually due undoubtedly to the opening of new factories, and in the 1951 census the population was found to be 61,093.

The following table gives details of Census Population since 1801 :—

Year	Population	Year	Population
1801	7,705	1891	58,080
1811	11,184	1901	69,228
1821	17,404	1911	80,990
1831	22,083	1921	82,760
1841	34,997	1931	71,108
1851	46,692	1939*	62,772
1861	50,461	1941	No Census
1871	51,891	1951	61,093
1881	48,857		

*National Registration population figure given in lieu of Census.

BIRTHS

In 1954, a total of 919 births were registered of which 880 were live births. This represents a Total Birthrate for the County Borough of 15.39 per thousand population and a live Birth Rate of 14.74. The live Birth Rate for England and Wales was 15.2 per thousand population.

The number of births is made up as follows :

LEGITIMATE				ILLEGITIMATE				TOTALS	
Livebirths		Stillbirths		Livebirths		Stillbirths			
Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
435	418	20	18	13	14	1	Nil	469	436
853		36		27		1		919	
891				28					

A comparison of England and Wales and Local Birthrates over the past ten years is shown in the following table :

Year	No. of Births	Rates per thousand population		Increase or decrease of Local Rate on National Rate
		County Borough of Merthyr Tydfil	England and Wales	
1944	1086	17.8	17.5	+0.3
1945	960	16.1	16.1	0.0
1946	1141	18.9	19.2	-0.3
1947	1181	19.6	20.6	-1.0
1948	1099	18.4	17.9	+0.5
1949	1083	17.8	16.7	+1.1
1950	1057	17.4	15.8	+1.6
1951	992	16.4	15.5	+0.9
1952	961	15.9	15.3	+0.6
1953	959	16.04	15.5	+0.5
1954	880	14.74	15.2	-0.5
Aver. Annual Birthrate 1944 to 1954		17.2	16.9	+0.3

MARRIAGES

During 1954, 475 marriages were registered in the County Borough of Merthyr Tydfil, which is a Married Persons Rate of 15.9 per thousand population. The details of marriages in the County Borough during the last ten years and their comparison with the national figures are as follows :—

Year	Number of Marriages	Rates per thousand population	
		County Borough of Merthyr Tydfil	England and Wales
1945	480	16.1	18.7
1946	500	16.6	18.0
1947	476	15.8	18.6
1948	480	16.1	18.2
1949	649	21.4	17.1
1950	486	16.0	16.4
1951	481	15.9	16.5
1952	491	16.3	15.9
1953	492	16.4	15.6
1954	475	15.9	15.4

DEATHS

During 1954, eight hundred and eighty six deaths were registered in the County Borough but 121 of these deaths were of non-residents. In addition, 52 residents died outside the County Borough Area so that the total number of deaths of residents during the year was 817. The Death Rate per thousand population for 1954 was therefore 13.69 whilst the rate for England and Wales was 11.3 and that for the Great Towns in England and Wales, 12.1.

The following table shows the number of deaths of Residents of the County Borough together with the Local and England and Wales Death Rates from 1944 :

Year	Number of Deaths	Rates per thousand Population	
		Merthyr Tydfil	**England & Wales
1944	905	14.8	11.6
1945	865	14.5	11.4
1946	904	14.9	11.5
1947	940	15.6	12.0
1948	838	14.1	10.8
1949	839	14.1	11.7
1950	941	15.8	11.6
1951	913	15.3	12.5
1952	777	13.1	11.3
1953	849	14.2	11.4
1954	817	13.7	11.3

(**The National Rate is quoted but the Death Rate for Merthyr Tydfil compares more favourably with that for the Great Towns in England and Wales).

The numbers and percentages of deaths occurring in the different age groups are :—

Age Group	Number of Deaths			Percentage
	Males	Females	Totals	
0-1 yr.	28	16	44	5.39
1-5 yrs.	4	3	7	0.86
5-15 yrs.	1	—	1	0.12
15-45 yrs.	31	28	59	7.22
45-65 yrs.	127	79	206	25.21
65-75 yrs.	121	82	203	24.85
Over 75 yrs.	151	146	297	36.35
All Ages	463	354	817	100.00

CAUSE OF DEATH	Total									
	0—1	1—5	5—15	15—45	45—65	65—75	Over 75			
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	—	—	—	3	6	1	1			
Tuberculosis, Other	—	—	—	—	2	—	—			
Syphilitic Disease	—	—	—	—	—	1	—			
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	—	—	—	1	—	—	—			
Malignant Neoplasms, Stomach	—	—	—	2	10	1	2			
Malignant Neoplasms, Lung/Bronchus	24	—	—	1	16	5	2			
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	26	—	—	2	13	6	5			
Leukemia	1	—	—	—	1	—	—			
Diabetes	2	—	—	1	—	—	—			
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	57	—	—	—	8	17	32			
Coronary Disease, Angina	50	—	—	1	15	21	13			
Hypertension with Heart Disease	6	—	—	—	3	2	1			
Other Heart Disease	73	—	—	6	9	17	41			
Other Circulatory Disease	16	—	—	1	3	3	9			
Pneumonia	15	3	2	—	—	5	5			
Bronchitis	40	—	—	—	17	16	7			
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	25	—	—	—	7	14	2			
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	7	—	—	—	3	2	2			
Gastritis, Enteritis, Diarrhoea	2	—	—	—	—	1	1			
Nephritis and Nephrosis	16	1	—	2	3	—	1			
Hyperplasia of Prostrate	15	—	—	—	—	5	10			
Congenital Malformations	7	4	—	—	1	—	—			
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	45	20	—	1	4	4	13			
Motor Vehicle Accidents	3	—	—	—	1	—	1			
All other Accidents	10	1	—	—	2	—	2			
Suicide	2	—	—	—	1	—	—			
TOTAL — MALES	463	28	4	1	31	127	121			
							151			

CAUSE OF DEATH	Total	0—4	5—14	15—44	45—64	65—74	Over 75
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	8	—	—	4	2	2	—
Syphilitic Disease	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Malignant Neoplasms, Stomach	21	—	—	—	6	7	8
Malignant Neoplasms, Lung/Bronchus	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Malignant Neoplasms, Breast	6	—	—	—	5	1	—
Malignant Neoplasms, Uterus	5	—	—	1	3	—	1
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	29	—	—	3	13	7	6
Leukaemia	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Diabetes	2	—	—	—	—	1	1
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	64	—	—	—	10	27	27
Coronary Disease, Angina	23	—	—	—	5	9	9
Hypertension with Heart Disease	6	—	—	—	2	3	1
Other Heart Disease	79	—	—	6	9	12	52
Other Circulatory Disease	12	—	—	—	4	1	7
Influenza	2	—	—	1	1	—	—
Pneumonia	10	4	1	1	1	1	2
Bronchitis	16	—	—	—	3	4	9
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	2	—	—	—	1	—	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	9	—	—	4	—	2	3
Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations	2	2	—	—	—	—	—
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	44	9	1	5	10	3	16
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
All Other Accidents	7	1	1	—	—	2	3
Suicide	2	—	—	1	1	—	—
TOTALS — FEMALES	354	16	3	28	79	82	146

WARD DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS

The Ward Distribution of Deaths of Residents is shown below. No significance can be attached to these figures because the age, sex and population of each ward have not been taken into consideration.

Dowlais ...	99	Town ...	133
Penydarren ...	139	Plymouth ...	85
Park ...	93	Merthyr Vale	96
Cyfarthfa ...	93	Treharris ...	80

DEATHS OF RESIDENTS OCCURRING OUTSIDE THE BOROUGH.

During 1954, fifty-two deaths of residents which occurred outside the County Borough area were assigned by the Registrar-General. The following are the places at which the deaths took place :—

<i>Address at which death took place</i>	<i>Registration District</i>	<i>No. of Deaths</i>
Tower Colliery, Hirwaun ...	Neath ...	1
Caerphilly Road, Pwllpant ...	Caerphilly ...	1
Llandough Hospital ...	Cardiff ...	5
Rhigos Trading Estate ...	Neath ...	1
Augustine Way, Haverfordwest ...	Haverfordwest	1
Ladysmith Rd., Cardiff ...	Cardiff ...	1
Royal Infirmary, Cardiff ...	Cardiff ...	13
Rookwood Hospital, Cardiff ...	Cardiff ...	2
St. David's Hosp., Cardiff ...	Cardiff ...	6
Regent St., Gloucester ...	Gloucester ...	1
Taff Merthyr Colliery, Trelewis ...	Gelligaer ...	2
Glossop Tce. Unit ...	Cardiff ...	1
Neath General Hospital ...	Neath ...	2
E. Glam. Hospital, Church Village	Llantrisant ...	1
Hammersmith Hospital ...	Hammersmith	1
Royal Hamadryad Hospital ...	Cardiff ...	1
Fedw Hir Hospital, Aberdare ...	Aberdare ...	1
Conwil Road, Newchurch ...	Carmarthen ...	1
Bailey Street, Cwm ...	Ebbw Vale ...	1
Rhydlafar Hospital, Pentyrch ...	Cardiff ...	1
Gellinedd Hospital, Pontardawe ...	Pontardawe ...	1
Morrison Emergency Hospital ...	Swansea ...	1
Queen Eliz. Hosp., Birmingham ...	Birmingham ...	1
Tremont Road, Cefnlllys ...	Llanr'd'd Wells	1
Aberdare General Hospital ...	Aberdare ...	3
Tirherbert Colliery, Rhigos ...	Neath ...	1
Total	... ..	52

FATAL ACCIDENTS AND SUICIDES

During 1954 there were sixteen fatal accidents, five fatal motor accidents and four suicides involving residents of the County Borough. The details of these deaths are as follows :—

(a) Fatal Accidents :

Deaths through injuries received during the course of employment	...	...	...	...	6
Accidental crushing	...	...	...	...	1
Accidental Head Injury	...	...	...	...	1
Injuries from Accidental fall	...	...	...	...	1
Death accelerated through accidental falls	...	...	...	...	4
Asphyxia through accidental suffocation in a crowded bed	...	...	...	...	1
Asphyxia through face in bolster whilst asleep	...	...	...	...	1
Asphyxia through accidental drowning	...	...	...	...	1
Total Fatal Accidents	...	...	...	...	16

(b) Motor Accidents :

Injuries accidentally received whilst riding pillion on motor cycle	...	...	...	...	...	1
Injuries accidentally received whilst riding on motor-cycle combination	...	...	...	...	...	1
Injuries accidentally received when knocked down by a motor cycle	...	...	...	...	...	1
Injuries accidentally received when run over by a reversing lorry	...	...	...	...	...	1
Injuries accidentally received when run over a motor van	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total Fatal Motor Accidents	...	...	...	...	...	5

(c) Suicides :

Coalgas poisoning self-administered whilst balance of mind was upset	...	...	...	...	...	1
Asphyxia through hanging whilst balance of mind was upset	...	...	...	...	...	2
Carbon Monoxide poisoning self-administered whilst balance of mind was upset	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total Suicides	...	...	...	...	...	4

ANALYSIS OF DEATHS FROM VARIOUS CAUSES

(i). Heart Disease :

Males	...	...	129
Females	...	...	108
Total			<hr/> 237 <hr/>

Heart disease embraces the following classifications of Causes of Death :

Coronary Disease, Angina.
Hypertension with Heart Disease.
Other Heart Disease.

This group was the largest cause of death being responsible for 29.01% of all deaths in 1954 as compared with 31.09% in 1953. It also represents a Death Rate of 3,970 per million.

The deaths recorded in sex and age groups were as follows :

		0-5	5-15	15-45	45-65	65-75	Over 75
Males	...	—	—	7	27	40	55
Females	...	—	—	6	16	24	62

(ii) Malignant Neoplasms :

Males	.....	...	65
Females	...	...	62
Total			<hr/> 127 <hr/>

This group is sub-divided into the following classifications of Causes of Death :

Malignant Neoplasms, Stomach
Malignant Neoplasms, Lung Bronchus
Malignant Neoplasms, Breast
Malignant Neoplasms, Uterus
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms

Malignant Neoplasms were responsible for 15.54% of all deaths compared with 17.19% in 1953. It represents a Death Rate of 2,130 per million population.

		0-5	5-15	15-45	45-65	65-75	Over 75
Males	...	—	—	5	39	12	9
Females...	...	—	—	4	28	15	15

(iii). Tuberculosis (All Forms) :

Males	...	...	13
Females	...	...	8
Total			<hr/> 21 <hr/>

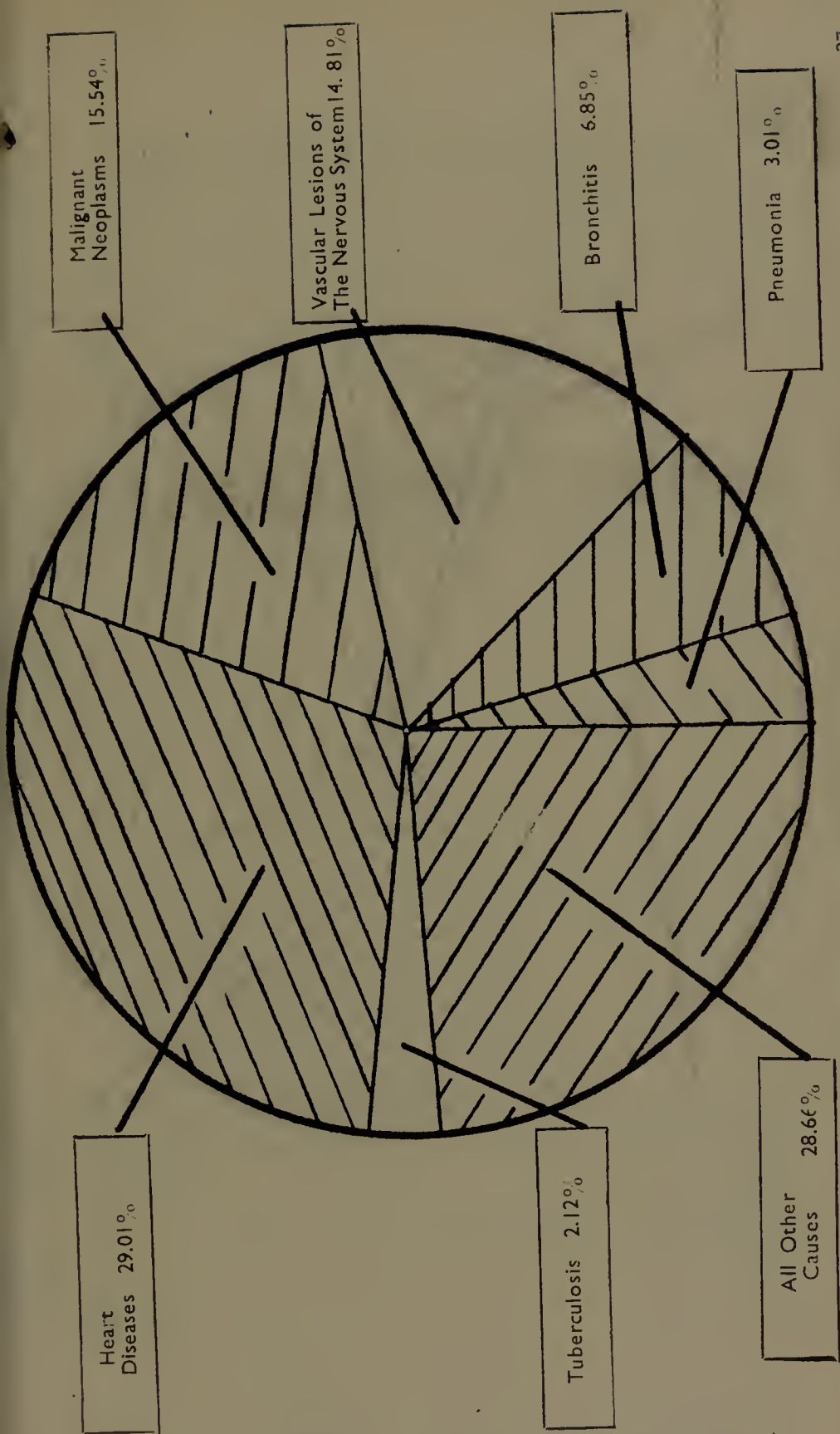


Fig. 3—PERCENTAGES OF DEATHS FROM PRINCIPAL CAUSES—1954

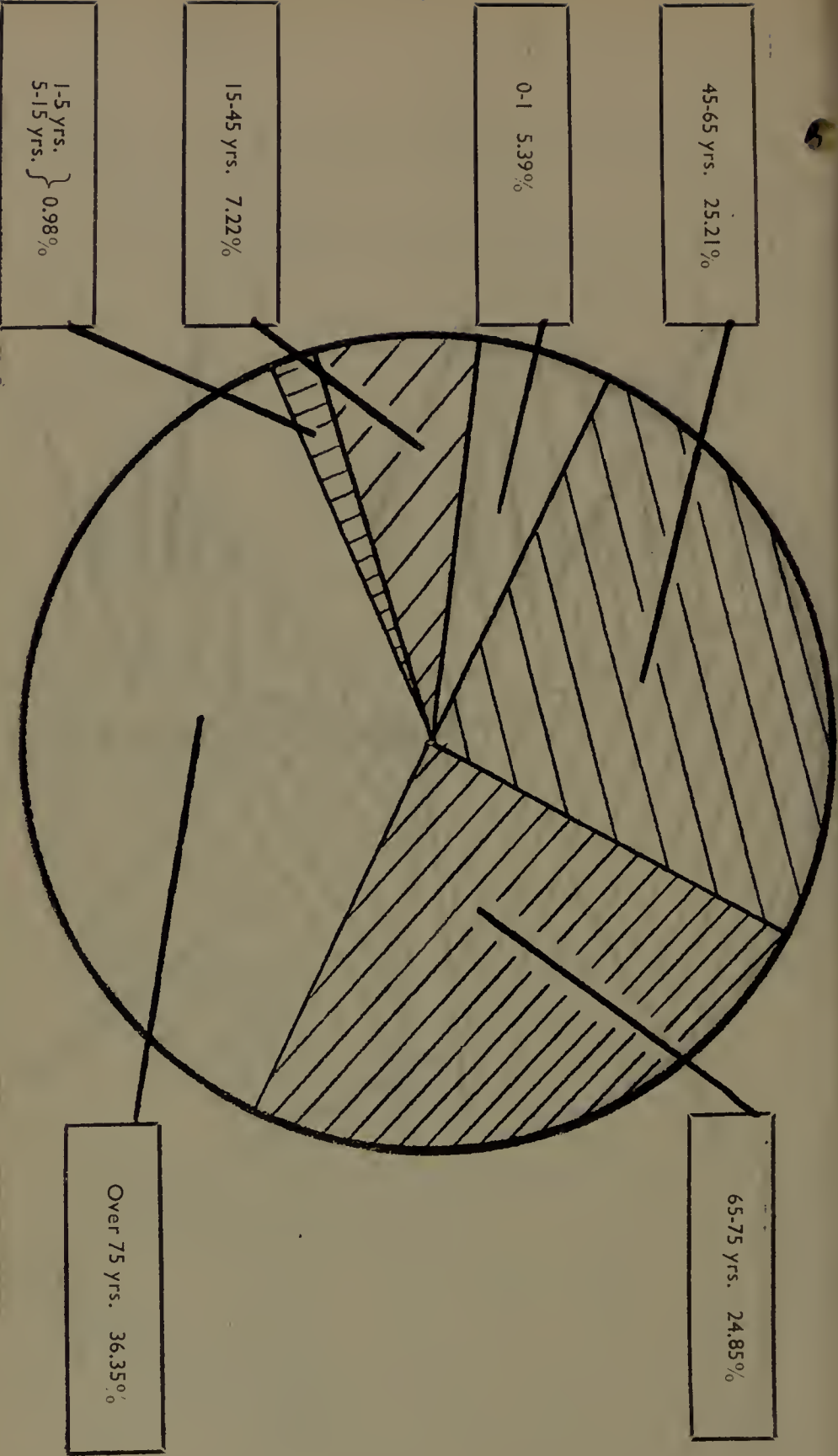


Fig. 4—PERCENTAGES OF DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGES—1954.

Tuberculosis was responsible for 2.57% of all deaths in 1954 as compared with 2.12% in 1953. The Death Rate was 351.8 per million population.

The deaths recorded in sex and age groups were as follows :

		0-5	5-15	15-45	45-65	65-75	Over 75
Males	—	—	3	8	1	1
Females	—	—	4	2	2	—

(iv) **Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System :**

Males ...	...	57
Females ...	...	64

Total ... 121

Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System were responsible for 14.81% of all deaths as compared with 13% in 1953. The Death Rate was 2,030 per million population.

The deaths recorded in sex and age groups were as follows :

		0-5	5-15	15-45	45-65	65-75	Over 75
Males	—	—	—	8	17	32
Females	—	—	—	10	27	27

(v) **Congenital Malformations :**

Males ...	...	7
Females ...	...	2

Total ... 9

Congenital Malformations were responsible for 1.10% of all deaths and the death rate was 150 per million population.

All these deaths occurred in the first year of life except two male deaths in 45-65 year age group and one male death in the 25-45 years group.

(iv). **Bronchitis :**

Males ...	...	40
Females ...	...	16

Total ... 56

Bronchitis was responsible for 6.85% of all deaths compared with 7.66% in 1953. The Death Rate from Bronchitis was 940 per million population.

The deaths recorded in sex and age groups were as follows :

		0-5	5-15	15-45	45-65	65-75	Over 75
Males	—	—	—	17	16	7
Females	—	—	—	3	4	9

(vii). **Pneumonia :**

Males ...	...	15
Females ...	...	10

Total ... 25

Pneumonia was responsible for 3.01% of all deaths compared with 3.17% in 1953. The Pneumonia Death Rate was 420 per million population.

INFANT MORTALITY.

Indicated in the following table are the numbers and rates of Infant Deaths within the County Borough and England and Wales over the past ten years. The rate of 47.73 per thousand births in Merthyr Tydfil, for 1954 is one of the unpleasant features of our Public Health Service as it compares very unfavourably with the rate for England and Wales which is 25.5 per thousand live births. As I stated last year, investigations are being made into the causes and factors affecting this high rate. In connection with Dr. F. W. Nash, Consultant Paediatrician, an exhaustive inquiry is being made by this Department during 1955 into all aspects of the Ante natal, Medical, Environmental and Sociological History of every birth taking place in the County Borough area during this year. I hope to include the general results of this inquiry in my Annual Report for 1955.

Year	No. of Infant Deaths	Infant Death Rates	
		Merthyr Tydfil	England and Wales
1944	70	64.46	45.4
1945	68	70.80	46.0
1946	69	60.47	42.9
1947	74	62.65	41.4
1948	53	48.20	33.9
1949	51	47.09	32.4
1950	43	40.68	29.6
1951	42	42.30	29.7
1952	44	45.79	27.6
1953	42	43.79	26.8
1954	42	47.73	25.5

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

During 1954, one Maternal Death was recorded which represents a Maternal Death Rate of 1.09 per thousand births. The following table shows details of deaths due to or associated with Childbirth, Pregnancy and Abortion during the past ten years :

Year	Total Number	Puerperal Sepsis	From Other Causes	From Assoc- iated Causes	Rate per 1000 births
1944	3	—	3	—	2.63
1945	2	—	2	—	1.90
1946	2	—	2	—	1.67
1947	5	2	3	—	4.0
1948	6	—	6	—	5.9
1949	—	—	—	—	Nil.
1950	—	—	—	—	Nil.
1951	3	—	1	2	2.9
1952	1	—	1	—	0.99
1953	—	—	—	—	Nil.
1954	1	—	1	—	1.09

Nett Deaths from Stated Causes under One year—Age Distribution

CAUSE OF DEATH	Under 1 week	Over 1 week and Under 1 month	Total under 1 mth	1 month to 3 mths	3 mths to 6 mths	6 mths to 9 mths	9 mths to 12 mths	Total Deaths under one year
ALL CAUSES	25	4	29	4	5	2	2	42
Premature Birth	13	2	15	1	—	—	—	16
Cardiac Failure	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Broncho-pneumonia	—	—	—	1	3	1	—	5
Birth Injury	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Congenital Abnormality	3	—	3	1	1	—	—	5
Accidents	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	2
Sub Arachnoid Haemorrhage	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Atelectasis	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Other Causes	1	1	2	1	—	1	1	5
TOTAL	25	4	29	4	5	2	2	42

INFANT MORTALITY 1954.

Nett Deaths under One year from Stated Causes—WARD DISTRIBUTION

CAUSE OF DEATH	Dowlais Ward	Peny- darren Ward	Park Ward	Cyfarth- fa Ward	Town Ward	Ply- mouth Ward	Merthyr Vale Ward	Tre- harris Ward	Total
All Causes	5	8	1	8	5	3	7	5	42
Premature Birth	—	3	1	4	2	1	3	2	16
Cardiac Failure	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Broncho Pneumonia	—	2	—	1	—	1	—	1	5
Birth Injuries	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	3
Congenital Abnormality	—	—	—	2	—	1	2	—	5
Accidents	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Sub-Arachnoid Haemorrhage	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	3
Atelectasis	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2
Other Causes	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	5
TOTAL	5	8	1	8	5	3	7	10	42

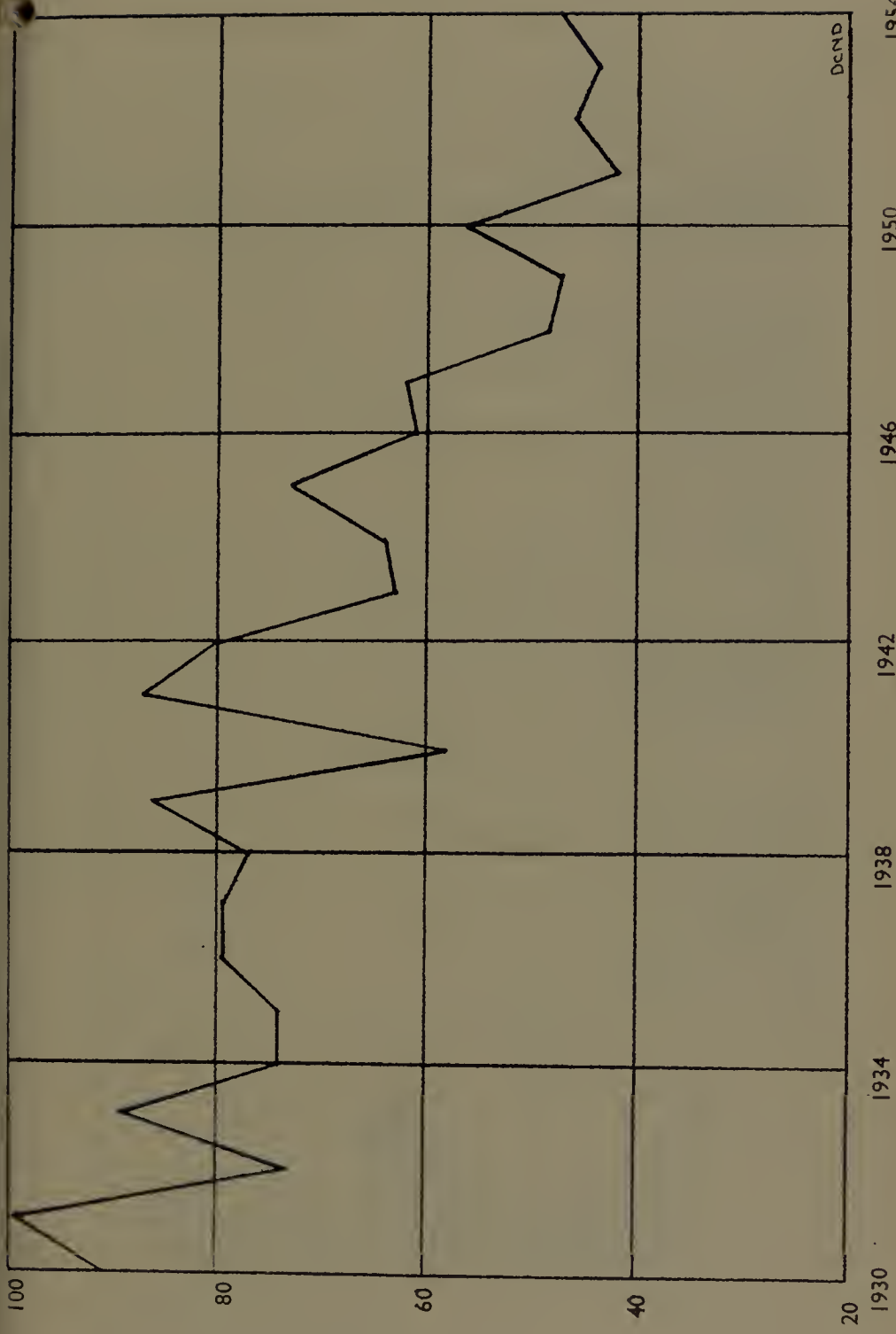
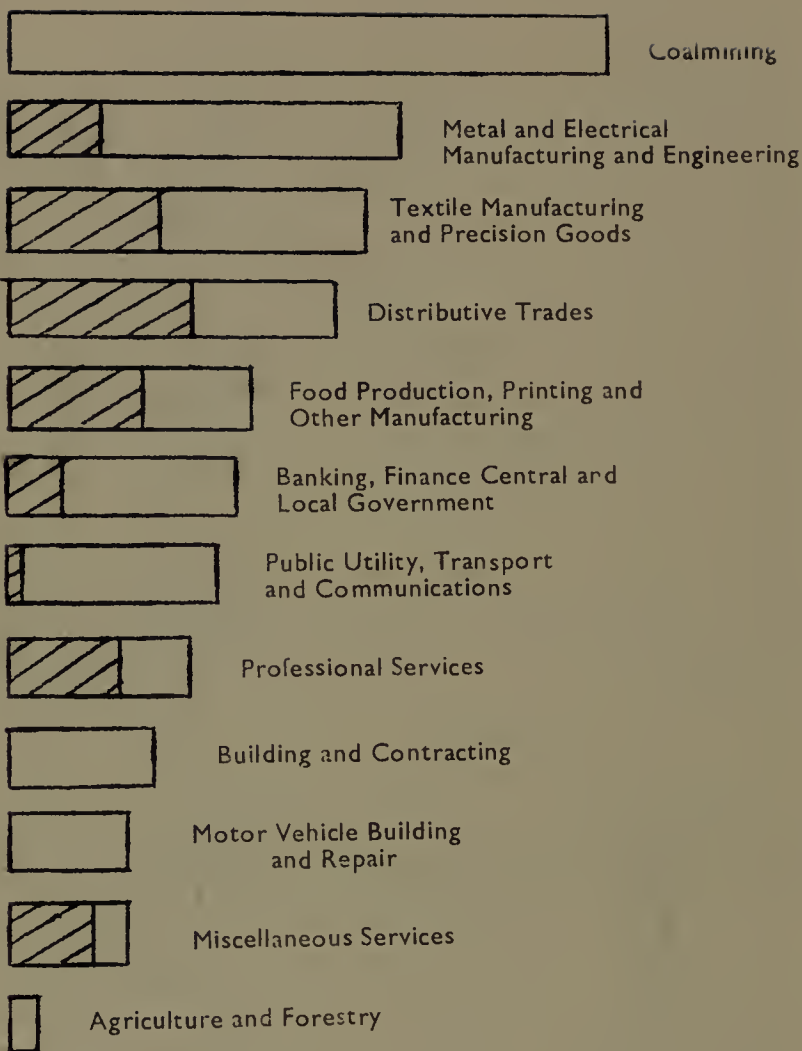




FIG. 5. INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE, 1930—1954.
(Rate Per Thousand Live Births).



Key :  MALES.  FEMALES.

**PROPORTION OF RESIDENTS EMPLOYED IN
VARIOUS CLASSES OF INDUSTRY—1954**
(In certain Classes the number of Females employed is too small to be represented on the Diagram).

EMPLOYMENT AND INDUSTRY.

The economic life of the County Borough of Merthyr Tydfil was from the Industrial Revolution until in the 1930's centred almost entirely around the production of coal, iron and steel. This was followed by a period of very grave depression in this area and considerable numbers of people had to migrate to other areas in search of a livelihood because there were no other light industries to replace the basic ones.

As a result of the Special Areas Act of 1934, several factories came into existence in this County Borough, and now we have such factories as Hoover's Washing Machines, Kayser-Bondor (Ladies underwear), Lines Bros. (Toys), I.C.I. (Chemicals, etc.) but still pride of place as the main employment of the County Borough, is Coalmining.

The following tables, details of which have been kindly supplied by the Managers of the Merthyr and Dowlais Employment Exchanges, give a reasonably accurate indication of the occupations and trades pursued by the inhabitants of the County Borough. The figures indicate the number of National Insurance Cards held at a specific time during the year, i.e. June 1954, of inhabitants classified according to the Ministry of Labour's Industrial Group System. Of course all these various types of trades and employments are not necessarily carried on within the County Borough Area as some people travel outside the area to work.

The first table gives the approximate percentages of persons in each type of industry and it is based upon the total figures given in the two tables :—

<i>Industry</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Coalmining	20
Metal & Elec. Manufacturing & Engineering ...	15
Textile Manufacturing & Precision Good ...	11½
Distributive Trades	11
Food Production and Printing etc.	8
Banking, Finance, Local and Central Government	7½
Public Utility, Transport and Communication Services	7
Professional Services	6
Building and Contracting	5
Motor Vehicle Building and Repair	4
Miscellaneous Services	4
Agriculture and Forestry	1

MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND NATIONAL SERVICE.

National Insurance Act, 1946 : Industrial Analysis of Estimated Number
of National Insurance Cards held by Class I Insured Persons

(Employed and Unemployed)†

in June, 1954 for DO WLAIS Employment Exchange Area.

Order	*Industrial Group	Males aged 15 and aver.	Females aged 15 and aver.	Total Males & Females aged 15 and aver
I	Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	6	—	6
II	Coalmining	57	—	57
	Other Mining and Quarrying ...	3	—	3
III	Treatment of Non-Metal Mining Products	—	—	—
IV	Chemicals and Allied Trades ...	477	21	493
V	Sheets and Tinplates	—	—	—
	Other Metal Manufacture	439	18	457
VI	Engineering	378	96	474
	Shipbuilding & Shiprepairing ...	—	—	—
	Electrical Goods	—	—	—
VII	Vehicles	1	1	2
VIII	Metal Goods not elsewhere specified	33	2	35
IX	Precision Instruments, Jewel- lery, etc.	1	5	6
X	Textiles	453	407	860
XI	Leather, Leather Goods and Fur	—	—	—
XII	Clothing	1	3	4
XIII	Food, Drink and Tobacco	99	225	324
XIV	Manufacture of Wood & Cork ...	15	66	81
XV	Paper and Printing	8	4	12
XVI	Other Manufacturing Industries	81	138	219
XVII	Building and Contracting	87	—	87
XVIII	Gas, Electricity and Water	52	—	52
XIX	Transport and Communication ...	152	5	157
XX	Distributive Trades	336	512	848
XXI	Insurance, Banking and Finance	9	5	14
XXII	National and Local Govern- ment Services	158	12	170
XXIII	Professional Services	12	21	33
XXIV	Miscellaneous Services	12	60	72
	Ex-Service Personnel on leave ...	1	—	1
	TOTALS	2874	1603	4477

Notes : *For details of Industrial Groups see Standard Industrial Classification 1948 (H.M.S.O.)

†These persons include those who were new entrants into insurance at 5th July, 1948 and the figures are therefore now comparable with years prior to 1948.

MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND NATIONAL SERVICE.

National Insurance Act, 1946 : Industrial Analysis of Estimated Number of
National Insurance Cards held by Class I Insured Persons

(Employed and Unemployed)†

in June 1954 for Merthyr Tydfil, Treharris and Merthyr Vale Employment
Exchanges and Y.E.O. Areas.

Order	*Industrial Group	Males aged 15 and over.	Females aged 15 and over.	Total Males & Females aged 15 and over
I	Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	122	1	123
II	Coalmining	4150	44	4194
	Other Mining and Quarrying ...	145	8	153
III	Treatment of Non-Metal Mining Products ...	79	25	104
IV	Chemicals and Allied Trades ...	23	25	48
V	Sheets and Tinplates	—	—	—
	Other Metal Manufacture ...	6	—	6
VI	Engineering	1219	160	1379
	Shipbuilding & Shiprepairing ...	—	—	—
	Electrical Goods	77	257	334
VII	Vehicles	464	302	766
VIII	Metal Goods not Elsewhere specified	171	9	180
IX	Precision Instruments, Jewel lery, etc.	965	292	1257
X	Textiles	6	7	13
XI	Leather, Leather Goods and Fur	17	1	18
XII	Clothing	102	584	686
XIII	Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	249	172	421
XIV	Manufacture of Wood & Cork ...	56	7	63
XV	Paper and Printing	62	96	158
XVI	Other Manufacturing Industries	305	319	624
XVII	Building and Contracting ...	743	7	750
XVIII	Gas, Electricity and Water ...	356	30	386
XIV	Transport and Communication	942	52	994
XX	Distributive Trades	820	828	1648
XXI	Insurance, Banking and Finance	108	65	173
XXII	National and Local Govern- ment services†	965	344	1309
XXIII	Professional Services	477	891	1368
XXIV	Miscellaneous Services	193	542	735
	Ex-Service Personnel on leave ...	7	—	7
	TOTALS	12829	5068	17897

Notes : *For details of Industrial Groups see Standard Industrial Classification 1948 (H.M.S.O.)

†These persons include those who were new entrants into insurance at 5th July, 1948 and the figures are therefore now comparable with years prior to 1948.

‡This figure does not include a large proportion of Civil Servants who pay their N.I. contributions directly.

PART 3.

Maternity and Child Welfare

LOCATION OF CLINICS.

There are five clinics in the County Borough area sited in such positions as to afford the greatest possible coverage of the area and easy accessibility for persons requiring to use them. The following are details of the individual clinics with a brief statement of the services they provide :

i. Dowlais Clinic, New Road, Dowlais.

Serves the Dowlais and northern portion of the Penydarren Wards. Has weekly Ante-natal and Infant Welfare Clinics with occasional Specialist Clinics. Post-natal Clinics held as required.

ii. The Hollies Clinic, Albert Street, Merthyr Tydfil.

Has weekly Ante-natal and Infant Welfare Clinics and fortnightly Post-natal Clinics. Has facilities for Sunlight and Orthopaedic Treatment. Has daily Dental Clinics with Dentist in attendance and frequent Specialist Clinics. Serves the central area of the County Borough that is, Town, Park and Cyfarthfa Wards and southern portion of Penydarren Ward.

iii. Glantaf Clinic, Troedyrhiw.

Has weekly Ante-natal and Infant Welfare Clinics with occasional Post-natal Clinics. Has facilities for Sunlight and Orthopaedic Treatment and Dental Clinics are held at least once weekly. Serves the areas of Pentrebach, Abercanaid and Troedyrhiw.

iv. Canonbie Clinic, Aberfan.

Has weekly Ante-natal and Infant Welfare Clinics with occasional Post-natal Clinics. Has facilities for Sunlight and Orthopaedic Treatment. Dental Clinics are held at least once weekly. Serves the areas of Aberfan, Merthyr Vale and Mount Pleasant.

v. Treharris Clinic, Bethel Chapel Vestry, John Street, Treharris.

Provides Ante-natal and Infant Welfare Clinics each Thursday and occasionally on Friday mornings. Serves Treharris Ward, that is Treharris, Edwardsville and Quakers' Yard.

Welfare Foods are sold at all the above Clinics on the days that the Infant Welfare Clinics are held. They are also available at certain other times during the week at these Clinics. See details on page 47.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

Ante-natal and Post-natal Clinics are held at least once per week at each Clinic in the County Borough area when the patients are seen by the Assistant Medical Officer in charge. The Health Visitors and Midwives for that particular area are also present. Periodic clinics are held by a Consultant Gynaecologist and Obstetrician when cases referred by the Assistant Medical Officers are seen. The following details show the attendances at the Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics during 1954.

Attendances at Ante-natal and Post-Natal Clinics, 1954.

	No. of Clinics provided	No. of Medical Officer Sessions held per month	Number of women in attendance		Total No. of atten'ces during Year
			Total no. of women	New cases	
Ante-Natal	5	30	709	588	4063
Post-Natal	5	5	118	90	172

The sub-joined table shows the number of blood specimens from Expectant Mothers which were taken by the Assistant Medical Officers at the Ante-Natal Clinics. A number of these patients were referred by their own General Practitioners or as in a very small number of cases, this Department arranged for the examination of specimens submitted by General Practitioners.

Ante-Natal Blood Specimens—1954

Examined for.	Number
Rh. Factor	544
Wassermann Reaction	564
G.C.F. and Kahn	564
Blood Urea	4

All Clinics, with the exception of Dowlais and Treharris Clinics, have fully equipped Dental Clinics for the treatment of Nursing and Expectant Mothers. During the year, 156 Dental Sessions for Mothers and Young Children were held at the Clinics throughout the Borough and treatment for two hundred and twenty six expectant or nursing mothers and two hundred and thirty children under school age was completed.

Child Welfare Clinics with an Assistant Medical Officer in attendance are held at each of the Clinics in the County Borough once weekly and there is an average of thirty sessions per month in the area. The number of children under one year who first attended a Clinic in 1954 was 743 and the total number of children under five who attended was 1550. The following table enumerates the attendances according to age-group :

Attendances at Infant Welfare Clinics.

Age Group	No. of attendances during year.
Under 1 year	7596
1 year but under 2 years	1502
2 years but under 5 years	720
Total Attendances ...	9818

There are nine Health Visitors employed by the Local Health Authority and these nurses also carry out the duties of School Nurses for the Local Education Authority. There are no specialist Health Visitors, all being responsible for visits to Mothers and Children, attendance at various clinics, special investigations, visits to notified cases of Measles and Whooping Cough and Tuberculosis visiting. Details of these visits during 1954 are set out below :—

Visits by Health Visitors—1954

Type of Visits	Children under 5 yrs.	Expectant Mothers	Children aged			T.B. visits	Other visits
			Under 1 yr.	1-2 yrs.	2-5 yrs.		
First Visits	910	447	910	—	—	—	—
Total Visits	18715	642	6192	3928	8595	924	951

(Note : Other Visits include investigations of Home Help Applications, houses where Home Helps are working, Infectious Diseases Investigations, Stillbirth and Infant Death Inquiries, etc.)

The total number of Families or Households visited by the Health Visitors during 1954 in order to accomplish the investigations, routine visits, etc., appearing in the above table was 16,968.

Midwifery.

There are ten Midwives employed by the Local Health Authority under its Domiciliary Midwifery Scheme. These midwives

reside in various parts of the Borough in order to ensure an even distribution with regard to the population and maximum availability and efficiency. The Medical Supervisor of Midwives is Dr. Dilys Stephens, Assistant Medical Officer. During 1954, they attended two hundred and sixty two domiciliary cases. Of these cases, twenty-two were delivered when a doctor was present and the remaining two hundred and forty without a doctor present. It was necessary for the midwives to send to General Practitioners for Medical Aid under Section 14(1) of the Midwives Act 1951, in fifty five cases. The midwives also attended four hundred and twenty two cases on discharge from institution and before the fourteenth day. They also reported that in two hundred and twenty seven of the cases delivered at home, the baby was wholly breast-fed on the fourteenth day. All midwives are trained to use gas and air apparatus and each has her own. Ninety three cases were delivered with the administration of gas and air analgesia without a doctor being present and fourteen such cases when a doctor was present.

Care of Premature Infants.

I have had a number of discussions with the Consultant Paediatrician in this Area, Dr. F. W. Nash, regarding the setting up of a Premature Unit in this town. The proposals have been considered by the Regional Hospital Board. Whilst appreciating the facilities available at St. David's Hospital, Cardiff, and others at Church Village, Newport and Neath to which some of our babies have been sent, it would appear far more advantageous to have a local unit. I am concerned about the high Mortality Rate in this County Borough and Dr. Nash and I, as reported in Part II, are making extensive enquiries into possible factors affecting this unhappy trend. With regard to premature infants, out of the forty-two children under one year who died in 1954, in over one-third of the total, that is sixteen, the certified cause of death was Prematurity. The following table gives details of Premature Births both live and still.

Premature Births.

<i>Notified from</i>	<i>Number</i>	
	<i>Live</i>	<i>Still</i>
Hospital 	59	22
Home 	16	4
Private Nursing Home ...	Nil.	Nil.

PREMATURE LIVE BIRTHS												PREMATURE STILL-BIRTHS		
Weight at birth	Born in Hospital			Born at home and nursed entirely at home			Born at home and transferred to hospital on or before 28th day			Born in hospital	Born at home	Born in nursing home		
	Total	Died within 24 hrs. of birth	Survived 28 days	Total	Died within 24 hrs. of birth	Survived 28 days	Total	Died within 24 hrs. of birth	Survived 28 days					
(a) 3 lb. 4 oz. or less (1,500 gms. or less)	8	4	3	1	—	1	2	—	—	8	2	—		
(b) Over 3 lb. 4 oz. up to and including 4 lb. 6 oz. ... (1,500-2,000 gms.)	18	1	12	3	1	2	—	—	—	7	—	—		
(c) Over 4 lb. 6 oz. up to and including 4 lb. 15 oz. ... (2,000-2,250 gms.)	11	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	—		
(d) Over 4 lb. 15 oz. up to and including 5 lb. 8 oz. ... (2,250-2,500 gms.)	22	1	20	9	—	9	—	—	—	3	—	—		
Totals	59	6	35	14	1	12	2	—	—	22	4	—		

ST. TYDFIL'S HOSPITAL AND GWAUNFARREN MATERNITY HOME

Eight hundred and twelve cases entered St. Tydfil's Hospital and Gwaunfarren Maternity Home during the year for confinement, of whom 667 were mothers from the County Borough Area. Priority for admission was given to Primipara cases with anticipated obstetrical difficulties and secondly to cases where home conditions were not satisfactory.

St. Tydfil's Hospital :

Total Number of births	...	...	...	...	332
Total number of Stillbirths	...	...	...	...	33
No. of cases of Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	3
Maternal Deaths	...	...	...	...	1

Gwaunfarren Maternity Home :

Total number of Births	...	...	...	...	480
Total number of Stillbirths	...	...	...	...	5
Number of cases of Pueperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	1
Number of Maternal Deaths	...	...	...	...	Nil
Number of cases of Pemphigus	...	...	...	...	10

The following are details of premature infants born in hospital during 1954 :

Total Live Premature Births	...	...	...	59
No. died within 24 hours	...	...	...	6
Number survived 28 days	...	...	...	35
Total Premature Stillbirths	...	...	...	22

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

There was one case of confirmed Puerperal Pyrexia notified during the year and notification was received of a further three "query" cases which were not afterwards confirmed.

There were no deaths from Puerperal Pyrexia during the year.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

No case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum was notified during the year.

DENTAL CARE.

As stated in the beginning of this Part of the Report, facilities are available for the Dental Treatment of Mothers and Young Children at Merthyr, Troedyrhiw and Aberfan Clinics. Two Dental Officers are employed by the Local Authority and during 1954, they devoted one hundred and fifty six sessions (i.e. completed half-days or equivalent) to the treatment of maternity and child welfare cases. The following tables show in greater detail the work carried out in this respect :

DETAILS OF DENTAL TREATMENT—1954.

Dental Treatment—Cases Treated.

	Examined	Needing Treatment	Treated	Made Dentally Fit
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	270	243	226	218
Children Under Five ...	252	239	230	224

Forms of Treatment Received.

	Extractions	Gen. Anesthetics	Fillings	Scalings and Gum treatment	Silver Nitrate treatment	Radio-graphs	Dentures provided	
							Full Upper or Lower	Partial Upper or Lower
Expectant and Nursing Mothers ...	964	82	116	44	24	1	30	12
Children under five ...	272	68	48	32	46	—	—	—

Welfare Foods.

On 28th June, 1954, the Local Authority took over responsibility for the distribution and sale of Welfare Foods within the County Borough from the Ministry of Food. A Welfare Foods Officer and one assistant were appointed and during the year the following foods were sold at the various Clinics throughout the Borough :—

National Dried Milk	...	...	21,060 tins
Cod Liver Oil	...	...	2,414 bottles
Vitamins A and D	...	...	526 packets
Orange Juice	...	...	9,776 bottles

Distribution takes place at the various Clinics at the following times:—

<i>Dowlais Clinic</i>	...	Tuesday Afternoon	
<i>Merthyr Clinic</i>	...	Wednesday	} Morning and Afternoon
		Thursday	
		Saturday Morning	
<i>Troedyrhiw Clinic</i>	...	Monday Afternoon	
<i>Aberfan Clinic</i>	...	Monday	} Morning
		Tuesday	
<i>Treharris Clinic</i>	...	Friday Morning and Afternoon	

BOARDING-OUT OF CHILDREN

The undermentioned particulars here are supplied by the Children's Officer :

Children Boarded-out as on the 1st of September, 1954.

1. Merthyr children boarded-out in Merthyr	...	60
2. Children boarded-out in Merthyr by other Authorities	... ..	4
3. Children supervised under Child Life Protection provisions	... ..	7



PART 4.

The Incidence and Control of Infectious and Other Diseases

WARD	DISEASE	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Whooping Cough	Measles	Erysipelas	Pneumonia	Encephalitis Lethargica	Paratyphoid	Puerperal Pyrexia	Gastro-Enteritis	Dysentery	Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis		TOTAL
DOWLAIS	20	2	79	—	1	2	—	—	—	3	—	—	13	—	—	120
PENYDARREN	21	2	42	2	—	1	—	2	—	3	1	1	9	—	—	84
PARK	10	2	9	4	—	2	—	—	1	—	1	1	12	—	—	42
CYFARTHFA	3	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	2	—	22
TOWN	17	1	11	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	17	—	—	50
PLYMOUTH	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	2	—	16
MERTHYR VALE	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	9	1	—	16
TREHARRIS	4	1	1	—	4	—	1	—	—	2	—	1	4	—	—	18
TOTAL	75	13	155	6	6	5	1	2	1	11	2	6	80	5	—	368

(Uncorrected Notification Totals stated).

DIPHTHERIA.

The number of cases of Diphtheria notified	...	...	13
Number of deaths	...	...	Nil
Death Rate	...	...	Nil

During the year 1954 the total number of cases of diphtheria notified was 13, but none of these were cases of clinical diphtheria. No deaths occurred during 1954.

As stated in a previous Report, the immunisation campaign was commenced on the 12th of September, 1934.

Number of children completely immunised
up to and including 31st December, 1954—20,724

During 1954, 695 children were immunized.

SCARLET FEVER.

Number of cases for the year 1954	...	...	75
Number of deaths	...	...	Nil

Of the 75 notified, 22 were removed to hospital, and the remainder were nursed at home. The disease continues to be mild in type.

MEASLES.

Number of Cases for the Year 1954	...	...	6
Number of Deaths	...	...	Nil.

CEREBRO-SPINAL MENINGITIS.

Six cases of Cerebro-spinal Meningitis were notified during the year.

ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS AND ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.

There was one case of Encephalitis Lethargica notified during the year.

GASTRITIS, DIARRHOEA AND ENTERITIS

There were two deaths from Diarrhoea, Gastritis and Enteritis during the year. Eleven cases of gastro-enteritis were notified.

	Pulmonary				Non-Pulmonary				Total				Grand Total
	Adults		Children		Adults		Children		Adults		Children		
A—1. DEFINITE CASES of Tuberculosis on Register at beginning of year	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
	371	332	38	22	34	33	10	13	405	365	48	35	
	2	4	2	1	—	—	—	—	2	4	2	1	
	
2. Transfers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	853
3. Lost sight of cases returning	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
B—Number of NEW CASES diagnosed as tuberculosis during Year :													—
1. Class A. T.B. Minus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
2. Class B. T.B. Plus	17	19	—	2	1	2	—	1	18	21	—	3	42
	18	11	1	1	—	—	—	—	18	11	1	1	31
C—NUMBER OF CASES included in A & B written off the Dispensary Register during the year as :	408	366	41	26	35	35	10	14	443	401	51	40	935
1. Recovered	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. Dead (all causes)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Removed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. For other reasons (Lost sight of)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
D—NUMBER OF DEFINITE CASES of tuberculosis on the Dispensary Register at the end of year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	375	341	34	24	34	35	8	14	409	376	43	38	866

TUBERCULOSIS.

I am pleased to report that the Tuberculosis Death Rate for 1954 is the second lowest ever recorded in the County Borough, being 351 per million population but is a slight increase on 1953. The high death rate during the past number of years has been an unpleasant feature of our Public Health, particularly when compared with the remainder of Wales and the rate for England and Wales. Our percentage reduction has been one of the largest in the country over the past three years, but this has been of small concern when comparing our high rate with those of other areas.

The Health Visitors of the Local Authority also carry out the duties of Tuberculosis Visitors and during 1954 they made nine hundred and twenty four visits to T.B. Patients at their own homes. The Health Visitors attend periodically at the Chest Clinic in order to acquaint themselves with the latest techniques in the nursing and treatment of tubercular cases. Much valuable co-operating is afforded by these attendances and the nurses are able to discuss specific cases with the Chest Physician's Medical and Nursing Staff. The District Nurses also participate in the treatment of T.B. patients at home who are either awaiting admission to Sanatoria or have been discharged therefrom. During the year, the District Nurses attended one hundred and thirteen cases and, in order to carry out the treatments, paid three thousand, nine hundred and thirty nine visits.

NOTIFICATIONS.

Total number of Notifications	...	...	...	73
Pulmonary	...	...	Males	36
			Females	33
Non-Pulmonary	...	...	Males	1
			Females	3
<i>Notification Rates (Per Thousand Population) :</i>				
Pulmonary	...	...	Males	0.60
			Females	0.55
Non-Pulmonary	...	...	Males	0.02
			Females	0.05

DEATHS.

Total number of Deaths	...	...	...	21
Pulmonary	...	...	Males	11
			Females	8
Non-Pulmonary	...	...	Males	2
			Females	Nil
<i>Death Rates (per million population) :</i>				
Pulmonary	...	...	Males	184
			Females	134
Non-Pulmonary	...	...	Males	33.5
			Females	Nil
Total Death Rate (all forms)	...	...	...	351

The age distribution of deaths from tuberculosis is given in the following table :

Age Periods	Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	—	—
5—15	—	—	—	—
15—45	3	4	—	—
45—65	6	2	2	—
65 and upwards	2	2	—	—
Totals	11	8	2	—
21				

ERYSIPELAS

Number of Notifications received during the year 6

Number of Deaths Nil.

The total number of notifications of persons suffering from Erysipelas received during the year 1954 was 6 as compared with 81 in the previous year.

CHICKEN POX.

Chickenpox was not notifiable during the year, and we have no knowledge the number of cases was that occurred.

BRONCHITIS.

Number of Deaths 56

Bronchitis Death Rate (Per Million Population) ... 940

Thirty six of the deaths occurred amongst persons aged 65 years and over. Of these 23 were males and 13 were females.

WHOOPING-COUGH.

Number of deaths from Whooping Cough	...	Nil
Number of cases notified to the Department and visited by Health Visitors	... ..	155
Whooping Cough Death Rate	... ..	Nil

PNEUMONIA.

Number of Notifications received during the year	5
Number of Deaths	... .. 25
Pneumonia Death Rate (per Million Population)	... 420

SMALL-POX

No case of Small Pox was notified during the year.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

The facilities for diagnosis and treatment for the above conditions are in the Mardy Hospital Grounds.

The Clinics are available at 3 p.m. for females on Tuesdays and for males on Thursdays at 5 p.m. The Irrigation Room is open daily (except Sundays) at 12 noon and 5 p.m.

On January 1st, 1954, 8 males and 2 females were under treatment, during the year 17 males and 10 females came under treatment for the first time, and 2 males and 1 female returned for further treatment or observation. The number of cases which ceased to attend before the completion of treatment was 8.

The number of cases remaining under treatment on the 31st December, 1954, was 2 males and 6 females.

The number of attendances—

(a) For individual attention of the Medical Officer was :
177 males and 133 females.

(b) For intermediate treatment, e.g., dressings, etc. was :
Nil.

A number attending the Clinic were from Glamorgan, Monmouthshire and Breconshire :

Attendances at V.D. Clinic 1934—1954

Year	Males	Females	Total
1934	6120	1458	7578
1935	6887	1928	8815
1936	5981	1697	7678
1937	6564	1689	8253
1938	6018	1321	7339
1939	5802	995	6797
1940	4129	1070	5199
1941	2346	1459	3805
1942	2234	1851	4085
1943	1946	1699	3645
1944	2744	1110	3844
1945	2446	1430	3876
1946	2809	969	3378
1947	1406	681	2087
1948	1458	905	2363
1949	484	291	775
1950	671	306	977
1951	276	228	508
1952	203	67	270
1953	218	103	321
1954	177	133	310

Syphilitic Diseases

Number of Deaths One

LABORATORY INVESTIGATIONS

The number of specimens submitted during the year were as follows :—

PATHOLOGICAL SPECIMENS :

Throat and Nose Swabs	...	...	...	72
Faeces	...	...	...	106
C.S. Fluid	...	...	...	164
Urine	...	...	...	12
Blood	...	...	...	12

These figures do not, however, include the numbers of specimens of blood taken at the Ante-Natal Clinics for Rh. Factor and Wassermann Reaction. These are reported under the heading "Maternity and Child Welfare" in Section Four of this Report.

HOSPITAL TREATMENT OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following tables indicate the details of infectious diseases treated at the Mardy Isolation Hospital and Pontsarn Sanatorium during the year. These hospitals are, of course, controlled by the Regional Hospital Board, but owing to their association with the general work of prevention of infectious diseases, I think the inclusion of these details is of great interest. For a similar reason the details of Gwaunfarren Maternity Home are given because of its association with our Ante-Natal Clinics. Cases of infectious diseases from outside the County Borough Area are included in the tables.

ANALYSIS OF CASES TREATED IN MARDY ISOLATION HOSPITAL — 1954.

DISEASE	<i>In Hosp.</i> 31/12/53	<i>Ad-</i> <i>mitted</i>	<i>Dis-</i> <i>charged</i>	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>In Hosp.</i> 31/12/54
Scarlet Fever ...	4	25	29	—	—
Diphtheria ...	3	21	22	—	2
C.S.M./T.B. Men ...	2	28	26	2	2
Poliomyelitis ...	—	5	5	—	—
Gastro-Enteritis ...	3	29	31	1	—
Chicken Pox ...	—	9	9	—	—
Inf. Hepatitis ...	—	3	3	—	—
Dysentery ...	—	4	1	—	3
Stomatitis ...	—	4	3	—	1
Erysipelas... ...	—	2	2	—	—
Pneumonia ...	—	2	2	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	2	25	27	—	—
Measles ...	—	4	4	—	—
Paratyphoid ...	—	4	4	—	—
B.C.G. Treatment ...	—	1	1	—	—
Observation ...	—	4	4	—	—
Impetigo ...	—	3	3	—	—
Anthrax ...	—	1	1	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	1	1	—	—
Scabies ...	—	1	1	—	—
Mumps ...	—	2	2	—	—
Encephalitis ...	—	1	1	—	—
Total Infectious Diseases ...	14	179	182	3	8
Tuberculosis ...	44	102	101	3	42
Grand Total ...	58	281	283	6	50

ANALYSIS OF PATIENTS TREATED AT MARDY ISOLATION
HOSPITAL—*cont.*

DISEASE		<i>In Hosp.</i> 31/12/53	<i>Ad-</i> <i>mitted</i>	<i>Dis-</i> <i>charged</i>	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>In Hosp.</i> 31/12/54
Merthyr Tydfil C.B.						
Scarlet Fever	...	4	22	26	—	—
Diphtheria	...	3	12	14	—	1
C.S.M./T.B. Men	...	1	12	12	1	—
Poliomyelitis	...	—	1	1	—	—
Gastro-enteritis	...	1	14	14	1	—
Chicken Pox	...	—	9	9	—	—
Mumps	...	—	1	1	—	—
Erysipelas...	...	—	1	1	—	—
Pneumonia	...	—	1	1	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	1	24	25	—	—
Measles	...	—	3	3	—	—
Paratyphoid	...	—	4	4	—	—
Observation	...	—	2	2	—	—
Stomatitis	...	—	2	1	—	1
Inf. Hepatitis	...	—	1	1	—	—
Impetigo	...	—	1	1	—	—
		10	110	116	2	2

Aberdare U.D.C.

Diphtheria	...	—	7	6	—	1
C.S.M./T.B. Men	...	1	11	9	1	2
Poliomyelitis	...	—	1	1	—	—
Gastro-enteritis	...	1	11	12	—	—
Scabies	...	—	1	1	—	—
Dysentery	...	—	1	—	—	1
Stomatitis	...	—	1	1	—	—
Anthrax	...	—	1	1	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	1	—	1	—	—
Mumps	...	—	1	1	—	—
Inf. Hepatitis	...	—	1	1	—	—
Impetigo	...	—	2	2	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	—	1	1	—	—
		3	39	37	1	4

Analysis of Patients Treated at Mardy Isolation Hosp.—cont.

DISEASE				In Hosp. 31/12/53	Ad- mitted	Dis- charged	In Hosp. Deaths 31/12/54
Mountain Ash U.D.C.							
Scarlet Fever	...	...	—	2	2	—	—
Diphtheria	...	...	—	2	2	—	—
C.S.M./T.B. Men	...	...	—	3	3	—	—
Erysipelas...	...	...	—	1	1	—	—
Encephalitis	...	...	—	1	1	—	—
Inf. Hepatitis	...	...	—	1	1	—	—
Poliomyelitis	...	...	—	1	1	—	—
Pneumonia	...	...	—	1	1	—	—
Stomatitis	...	...	—	1	1	—	—
B.C.G.	...	...	—	1	1	—	—
Gastro-Enteritis	...	1	1	1	2	—	—
				1	15	16	—

Breconshire C.C. and Brecon Borough Council :

Scarlet Fever	...	...	—	1	1	—	—
C.S.M./T.B. Men	...	...	—	1	1	—	—
Poliomyelitis	...	...	—	2	2	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	—	1	1	—	—
				—	5	5	—

Other Authorities :

C.S.M./T.B. Men	...	...	—	1	1	—	—
Gastro-Enteritis	...	...	—	3	3	—	—
Measles	...	...	—	1	1	—	—
Observation	...	...	—	2	2	—	—
Dysentery	...	...	—	1	1	—	—
Totals	...	...	—	8	8	—	—

Summary of Patients Treated at Mardy Isolation Hospital and Pontsarn Sanatorium in 1954.

Group	Clinical condition on discharge	Discharges or Deaths in 1954							
		MARDY HOSPITAL			PONTSARN SANATORIUM				
		Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total		
T.B. Minus	Quiescent	19	23	42	17	21	38	18	
	Non-quiescent	6	6	12	9	9			
T.B. Plus	Quiescent	3	1	4	7	3	10		
	Non-quiescent	18	20	38	15	12	27		
Died in Hospital	...	3	—	3	1	—	1		
Non T.B.	...	1	1	2	4	1	5		
BED STATE									
Beds Available	...	22	22	44	22	17	39		
Beds Occupied on 31/12/54	...	20	22	42	21	17	38		
Discharges during 1954	...	50	51	101	50	49	99		

VACCINATION

All the vaccinations and re-vaccinations carried out during the year were done by Medical Practitioners. Only under exceptional circumstances are vaccinations done at the Local Health Authority Clinics, although much importance is attached to the need for it and the Health Visitors encourage Parents to have their children vaccinated within six months. In 1954, eighty three vaccinations and twenty seven re-vaccinations were performed by the General Practitioners.

HOME NURSING.

The nurses operating this service continue to be very hard worked, although a much greater degree of co-operation seems apparent this year with the General Practitioners. I am sure the Doctors are fully aware of the amount of work that the District Nurses have to cope with and except in a very few isolated cases, they have gone to some length to relieve the Nurses if it is at all possible to do so. The table below gives details of the numbers of cases attended and visits paid by the District Nurses during the year.

Home Nursing Visits and Cases.

	Medi- cal.	Surg- ical.	Infect. Diseases.	T.B.	Maternal Compl'ns.	Other Cases	Total
Cases Atten'd	1260	360	7	113	30	251	2021
Visits Paid	30069	12945	59	3939	212	535	47759

The next table gives a further analysis of the cases and visits set out in the previous table. Details regarding children under 5 years and patients over 65 years and also those who had more than twenty-four visits in the year are as follows :—

Home Nursing—Special Classes of Patient.

	<i>Patients who at time of first visit were :</i>		<i>Patients who had more than twenty- four visits during year.</i>
	<i>Under 5 yrs</i>	<i>Over 65yrs</i>	
Cases attended ...	102	668	477
Visits paid ...	824	10776	22046

HOME HELPS

During the year, four home helps were employed on a part-time basis and they provided help in seven cases. This may appear on first sight to be very small for a County Borough of this size, but considerable cooperation was received from the National Assistance Board in the provision of home helps. A large proportion of the cases are not in a position to pay all or part of the cost, and consequently, although the Superintendent Nursing Officer was instrumental in placing the Home Help, the Board took responsibility for them and these cases are not included in our figures. The seven cases where help was provided came in the category — Chronic Sick, including Aged and Infirm.

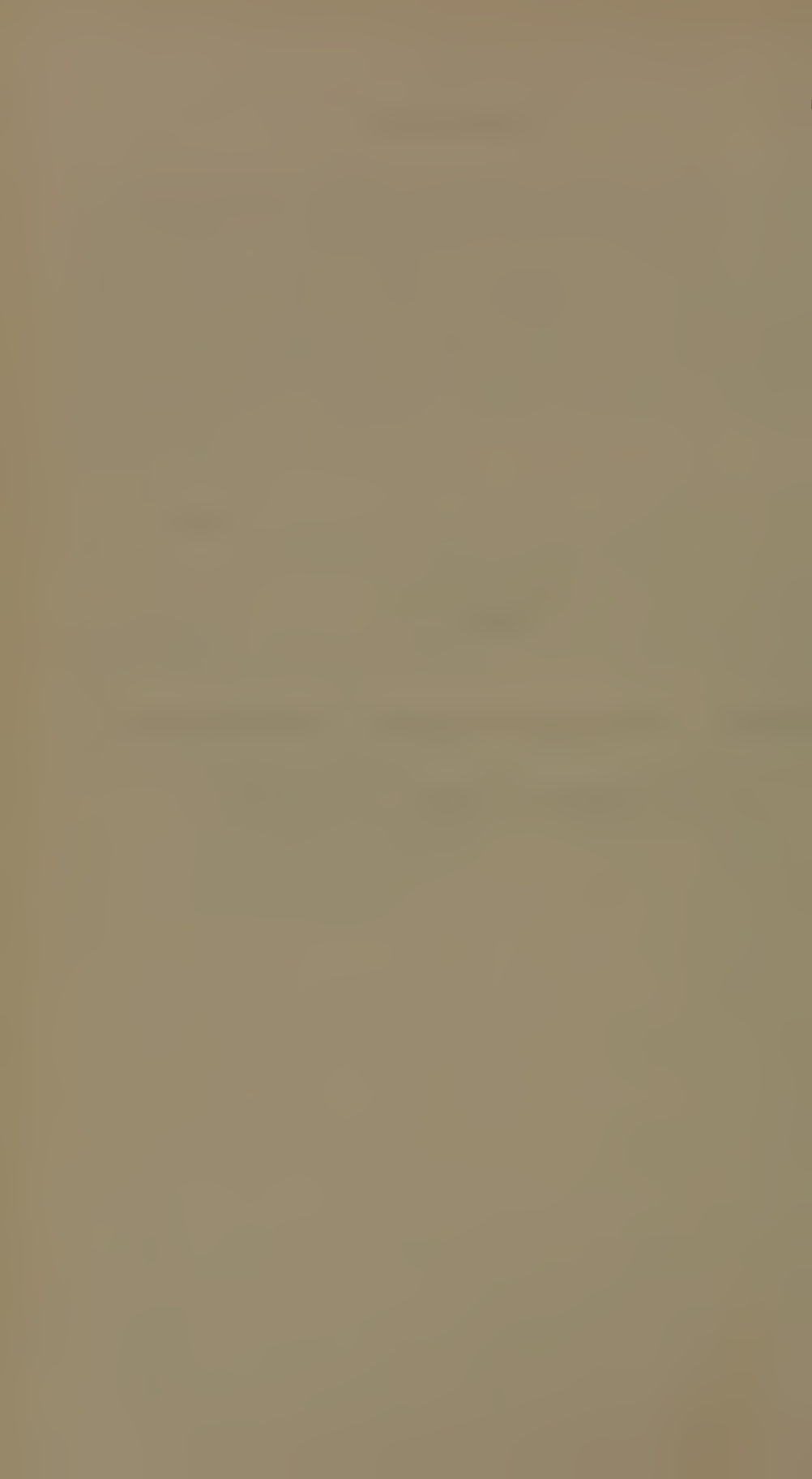
MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF EMPLOYEES STUDENTS, TEACHERS, ETC

The following are details of medical examinations which were carried out by the Medical Officer of Health and Assistant Medical Officers during the year :—

College Students	...	...	...	...	68
Omnibus Department	...	...	...	...	29
Penoyre House Staff	...	...	...	...	9
Fire Brigade	...	...	...	...	4
Town Hall & Education Dept. Candidates	...	...	...	...	48
Public Works Employees	...	...	...	...	107
Teaching Appointments	...	...	...	...	49
Police Candidates	...	...	...	...	5
School Cleaners	...	...	...	...	22
Total					341

PART 5.

Welfare, Mental Health, Ambulance
and other Allied Services



ANALYSIS OF PATIENTS TRANSPORTED DURING THE YEAR 1954

[illegible]

AMBULANCE SERVICES.

The Ambulance Service is centralized at the Market Hall, Merthyr Tydfil and is under the direct control of the Medical Officer of Health, to whom an Ambulance Officer located at the Market Hall is responsible for the running and efficiency of the service. The remarks I made last year regarding the number of ambulances engaged upon conveying patients to various Out-Patients Departments in Cardiff still hold. However, Out-Patients Departments are now in operation at St. Tydfil's Hospital, and this may have some effect upon the distances that patients are carried to such Departments. But you will observe that there is yet another increase in the total mileage for the Year. Appeals have been made to the General Practitioners to give sufficient notice so that all the patients can be put on one Ambulance instead of having say, three ambulances going at half-hour intervals to Cardiff each carrying only one patient. These appeals, I feel sure, have not gone unheeded but still a great amount of running time is wasted by ambulances having to wait one or two hours at Cardiff until the patients are seen. This, of course is common to most Authorities who send patients some distance to Treatment and Consultation Centres. As I said last year, I would not expect preferential treatment for Merthyr patients so that they may be seen immediately on arrival and waiting time is thus minimal, but the fact remains that this system causes an unavoidable wastage of running-time and man hours. The following table shows a comparison of the Journeys, Patients carried and Mileage for the years 1949 to 1954.

Ambulance Service ; Mileage ; Patients ; Journeys, 1949-1954.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Total number of journeys.</i>	<i>Number of Patients carried.</i>	<i>Total mileage covered.</i>
1949	... 5072	... 6241	... 72035
1950	... 5926	... 10044	... 91831
1951	... 5853	... 12541	... 91835
1952	... 6359	... 14899	... 99419
1953	... 6582	... 16694	... 104548
1954	... 6924	... 18001	... 109527

Next, details of the patients per journey for the years 1950 to 1954 are given. I have not included the year 1949 because I feel that that year was not a typical one, the service having just started and not got into its stride. Its inclusion in the table would falsely exaggerate the trend in the Patients per journey factor. The continued increase in the number of Patients carried per Journey is indeed a gratifying trend because it indicates greater efficiency in the planning of journeys and loading of ambulances and a more economic application of the Service in general. I also feel that it

helps to substantiate my remarks that the co-operation and consideration of the General Practitioners is much greater.

Patients Carried per Journey, 1950-1954.

<i>Year.</i>		<i>Patients per Journey.</i>
1950	...	1.697
1951	...	2.143
1952	...	2.343
1953	...	2.536
1954	...	2.600

MENTAL HEALTH.

The Local Authority is responsible for the control of the combined services of Mental Deficiency and the initial proceedings for Mental Treatment. The Local Authority has a special sub-committee of the Health Committee which deals with Mental Health Services. A part-time Consultant Psychiatrist, who deals principally with school children, is available on the Staff for adult cases. However, all adults almost without exception, attend the Psychiatric Out-Patients Clinic at the Merthyr General Hospital at which a Consultant Psychiatrist employed by the Regional Hospital Board attends. With regard to children, in addition to the part-time Psychiatrist, the Local Education Authority employs a full-time Psychologist. Two of the Assistant Medical Officers are recognised by the Ministry of Education for the purposes of certification of children under the Mental Deficiency Act. The Local Authority employs a full-time Duly Authorised Officer, who has the assistance of a part-time Deputy Duly Authorised Officer when required.

The subjoined table shows the number of patients in the various categories who entered Mental Hospitals during 1954 :

Admission to Mental Hospitals, 1954.

<i>Hospital.</i>	<i>Voluntary.</i>	<i>Certified.</i>	<i>Temporary</i>
Cefn Coed Hospital, Swansea ...	49	...	17
Mid-Wales Hospital, Talgarth	2	...	2
Whitchurch Hospital, Cardiff ...	2	...	—
Penyval Hospital, Abergavenny	1	...	—
Totals ...	54	19	12

i. Prevention Care. During the year, the co-operation of the Merthyr and Aberdare Hospital Management Committee has continued and full advantage has been taken of the facilities

provided by the Psychiatric Clinic held weekly in the Out-Patients' Department of the Merthyr General Hospital. Patients were submitted by the General Practitioners directly or through the Duly Authorised Officer. Where physical handicap or other causes prevent attendance at the Hospital, the Psychiatrist has willingly agreed to visit the home. Regular contact and liaison between relatives and patients receiving hospital treatment is maintained by the Duly Authorised Officer. Discharged patients are constantly supervised by the Local Health Authority and trial periods of discharge are given in order that patients may gradually re-orientate themselves and adapt themselves once more to home life. Where homes are unsuitable or not available, patients are discharged to Hostel Accommodation under Part III of the National Assistance Act.

ii. *Mental Deficiency.* There are three patients awaiting admission to Mental Deficiency Institutions in respect of whom applications have been made to the Regional Psychiatrist. Two are at present accommodated at St. Tydfil's Hospital. Great difficulty is being experienced in effecting the admission of patients because of the lack of accommodation.

Patients from the County Borough in Institutions, 1954.

<i>Institution.</i>	<i>Male</i>				<i>Female</i>			
	<i>Over 16.</i>		<i>Under 16.</i>		<i>Over 16.</i>		<i>Under 16.</i>	
Hensol Castle, Pontyclun	...	12	...	1	...	5	...	—
Stoke Park Colony	...	2	...	—	...	2	...	—
Bartistree Convent	...	—	...	—	...	1	...	—
St. Mary's Convent, Roehampton	—	...	—	...	1	...	—	...
Llys Maldwyn, Caersws	...	—	...	—	...	—	...	1
Llwyn View, Dolgelly	...	—	...	—	...	—	...	1
Eryri Hospital, Caernarvon	...	—	...	1	...	—	...	—
Llanfrechfa Grange, Mon.	...	—	...	1	...	—	...	—

iii. *Defectives in the Community.* The Local Authority is responsible for the supervision of patients on license from Mental Defective Institutions. Reports on home conditions and supervision are carried out by the Duly Authorised Officer in co-operation with the Health Visitors. The number of defectives under special supervision in 1954 is shown in the following table :

Defectives under Supervision, 1954.

	<i>Males.</i>				<i>Females.</i>			
	<i>Over 16.</i>		<i>Under 16.</i>		<i>Over 16.</i>		<i>Under 16.</i>	
Awaiting admission to Institutions	1	...	2	...	—	...	—	...
Under supervision	...	...	24	...	16	...	25	...

WELFARE SERVICES.

I. NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

(a) Section 21, *Provision of Residential Accommodation.*

During 1954, residential accommodation was provided at St. Tydfil's Hospital for an average weekly number of one hundred and two persons. The age groups of these persons were as follows :

Men.		Women.		Total.
<i>Under</i>	<i>Over</i>	<i>Under</i>	<i>Over</i>	
65 yrs.	65 yrs.	65 yrs.	65 yrs.	
16	72	5	9	102

Of these, four men and one woman were chargeable to Glamorgan County Council.

In addition, sixty three cases were admitted to Hospital and twenty-eight were discharged. A further twenty cases were discharged at their own request. Fifty-three new cases were admitted during the year to Part III accommodation. Temporary accommodation was provided for ten persons seeking shelter of a temporary nature through eviction or other urgent causes.

Pant House. Residential accommodation was provided for an average weekly number of thirteen persons in the following age groups :

Women.		Total
<i>Under 65 yrs.</i>	<i>Over 65 yrs.</i>	
7	6	13

Facilities for the weekly attendance of residents at local Cinemas were available throughout the year and season tickets were provided for those desirous of attending football matches. Concerts were also given at St. Tydfil's Hospital and the residents of Pant House were entertained to teas, concerts, etc., by voluntary organisations attached to the local churches. The Entertainments Committee of the County Borough, as usual, provided tickets for the Annual Fete and Gala held at Cyfarthfa Park.

(b) Section 29—**Welfare of the Blind.**

The welfare of blind persons is undertaken on an agency basis on behalf of the Council by the Merthyr Tydfil and Mid Wales Institution for the Blind. The number of registered blind persons during the year was three hundred and twenty-nine, which is an decrease of thirteen since last year, this being largely confined to persons over seventy years.

The blind population is grouped as follows :—

0-1	1-5	5-16	16-21	21-40	40-50	50-60	60-70	Over 70 yrs
Nil.	2	3	1	9	26	54	37	197

Of the eighteen persons employed in the Workshops, six men work in the Basket Department, four men in the Brush Department, five men in the Mat Department and three women in the Hosiery Department. The Institute have the services of a Blind Organiser employed by the Royal National Institute, and two persons during the year, were employed in sighted industry.

During the year, one hundred and five persons were examined by Dr. Parry for blindness, and thirty four were certified as Blind Persons in accordance with the Act.

On the 31st December, 1954, there were one hundred Partially Sighted Persons on the Register, grouped as follows :—

21-40	40-50	50-65	65-70	Over 70 yrs.
2	2	14	12	70

(c) Incidence of Blindness.

During the year 1954, Thirty-four persons were admitted to the Register of the Blind and seventy-one to the Register of the Partially-sighted upon receipt of Form B.D.8.

Of the forty-seven blind persons, the cause of the disability was Cataract in 16 cases, 12 of which were recommended for treatment and treatment was commenced in 8 of those cases. Four cases of Glaucoma were registered, two of which was recommended for and commenced treatment. Twenty cases were classified under the heading "Other Causes", 6 being recommended for and commenced treatment. No cases were registered through Retro-lental Fibroplasia.

On the Partially Sighted Register, Form B.D.8 recommended treatment in 7 cases out of the twelve cases of Cataract registered and treatment was commenced in all these cases. Two cases of Glaucoma were registered, recommended for treatment and treatment commenced. Thirty-five cases were registered through other causes and all received treatment.

No cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum were notified during the year.

Total number of Forms B.D.8 received was 96.

Follow-Up of Registered Blind Persons—1954.

	Cause of Disability			
	Cataract	Glaucoma	Retro-lental Fibroplasia	Others
(a) Number of cases registered during the year in respect of which para. 7(c) of Forms BD8 recommends :				
i. No treatment	4	2	Nil.	8
ii. Treatment (Medical, Surgical or Optical) ...	12	2	Nil.	6
iii. Number of cases in ii above which on follow-up action have received treatment	8	1	Nil.	6

FOLLOW-UP OF REGISTERED PARTIALLY SIGHTED PERSONS —1954

	Cause of Disability			
	Cataract	Glaucoma	Retrolental Fibro-plasia	Others
(b) Number of cases registered during the year in respect of which para. 7(c) of Form B.D.8 recommends :				
i. No treatment	1	Nil	Nil	12
ii. Treatment (Medical, Surgical or Optical) ...	12	2	Nil	44
iii. Number of cases in ii. above which on follow up action have received treatment	12	2	Nil	44

CEREBRAL PALSY, SPASTICS AND EPILEPTICS

The following data regarding Cerebral Palsied, Spastics and Epileptics has been made available through various sources, including the Home Nursing Service, Health Visitors and Welfare Service. Whilst I do not think it is complete, it does include a large proportion of those persons suffering from these complaints.

(a) Cerebral Palsied.

A large number of these consist of adult Hemaplegics, many of advanced years. There are, however, a few children which are known to come into this category. The following table sub-divides the known cases :—

Category.	Male.	Female.
Adults	15	15
Pre-school age... ..	2	1
School age—Attending School	3	5
Non-attenders	—	1

Of the twelve cases included in the Categories Pre-school and School Age, one boy and two girls were recommended for admission to a Special School.

(b) Spastics.

I am confident that all Spastics of school age and younger are known to the Department, but our figure for adults is not complete. We have included a number of cases who were known to be Spastics when in school and have now grown up. As for the older still portion of the population, it is only by local knowledge of the Health Visitors and District Nurses, that we are able to discover them.

<i>Category.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female</i>
Adults—Working	1	—
Not Working	6	1
Pre-school age	4	2
School-age—Attending School	7	5
Non-attenders	4	2

There are twenty Spastics under or of school-age. Of these six boys and two girls are receiving treatment through the local Health Authority in conjunction with the Hospital Services. Three of the boys have also been recommended for admission to a Special School. One boy, aged 14 years, has attended one such school during the year.

(c) Epileptics.

There are forty-two known Epileptics in the County Borough and the following table shows the sub-divisions :—

<i>Category.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>
Adults	11	15
Pre-school age... ..	1	—
School-age—Attending School	3	6
Non-attending	6	—

Of the above, two boys and three girls are receiving regular treatment from the Local Health Authority in conjunction with the Hospital Management Committee. Of the forty-two cases, six adult males, four boys, four adult females and one girl suffer from Epilepsy associated with Mental Deficiency or Retardation.



PART 6.

Sanitary Inspection and Housing

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA.

Of the Notices served, 459 were Statutory and 725 Informal.

Repairs carried out or nuisances abated :

1. Number of houses repaired or made fit	...	...	241
2. Provided with vertical damp courses	...	...	46
3. Roofs repaired	...	...	496
4. Floors repaired, ventilated, etc.	...	...	138
5. Internal plasterings to walls and ceilings	...	...	151
6. Windows repaired, and made to open, etc.	...	...	184
7. Sash cords renewed	...	...	92
8. Food Stores repaired, etc.	...	...	48
9. Stairs and staircases repaired	...	...	54
10. Skirting boards, provided or repaired	...	...	83
11. Doors repaired, re-hung or renewed	...	...	141
12. Firegrates repaired, re-set or renewed	...	...	97
13. Chimney stacks repaired	...	...	112
14. Sink wastes repaired or renewed	...	...	37
15. New Sinks provided or fitted	...	...	14
16. External walls repaired, cemented or re-built	...	...	61
17. Ovens repaired or renewed	...	...	18
18. Eaves gutters and rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	335
19 Dangerous walls repaired	...	...	46
20. Yards and passages repaired and paved	...	...	35
21. Obstructed drains cleansed	...	...	496
22. Yard gulleys provided	...	...	5
23. Drains repaired or reconstructed	...	...	101
24. Inspection chamber covers renewed	...	...	49
25. W.C. pans renewed	...	...	56
26. W.C. cisterns repaired or renewed	...	...	118
27. Soil pipes or ventilating shafts renewed or repaired	...	...	38
28. Closet structures repaired or reconstructed...	...	...	111
29. Animals improperly kept	...	...	11
30. Smoke nuisances	...	...	18
31. Accumulations	...	...	133

INSPECTIONS

Inspections Made During the Year :

Housing	...	...	...	...	...	...	406
Council Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	300
Mechanical Factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	242
Non-Mechanical Factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	139
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	282
Workplaces	...	...	...	...	...	...	161
Food Preparation Premises			...	...	...	...	586
Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	344
Fish Fryers	...	...	...	...	...	...	226
Inns, Public Houses, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	265
Milk and Dairies Regulations			...	...	...	...	206
Slaughter-houses and Meat Depots...			...	...	...	...	1068
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	...	...	85
Food Hawkers	...	...	...	...	...	...	201
Common Lodging-houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	72
Houses let in lodgings	...	...	...	...	...	...	193
Infectious diseases investigated			...	...	...	...	212
Infectious diseases re-visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	194
<hr/>							
Complaints received	...	...	...	...	...	...	1014
Notices issued	...	...	...	...	...	...	1184
Clothing/Premises disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	...	233
Premises disinfested	...	...	...	...	...	...	202
Lengths of Drains tested (in feet)	...	...	...	...	...	...	3715

RODENT CONTROL.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

In accordance with the requirements of the above Act and instructions issued by the Director of Infestation Control, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, the work of Rodent Control was continued throughout the year by the Rodent Control Staff under the supervision of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Complains from Occupiers of 625 premises were investigated and treatment carried out where necessary. Numerous other infestations were discovered and were dealt with accordingly. In addition the baiting and poisoning the sewers throughout the Borough has been continued.

I. TREATMENT OF SEWERS.

The treatment of sewers was completed in accordance with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries instructions.

Two Maintenance Treatments were carried out during the year as follows :—

1st MAINTENANCE TREATMENT—25th January to 20th February, 1954 :

Number of manholes in foul and connected systems ...	1962
Number of manholes baited	730
Number of manholes showing prebait take	516
Schemes of baiting used	Consecutive days
Bait and Poison used	Bread Mash & Arsenic

TEST BAITING :

(i) Date on which tests were laid ...	11th-15th Jan., 1954
(ii) Number of manholes tested	44
(iii) Number of tested manholes showing bait take ...	21

2nd MAINTENANCE TREATMENT—5th July to 30th July, 1954 :

Number of manholes in foul and connected systems ...	2060
Number of manholes baited	795
Number of manholes showing prebait take	458
Schemes of baiting used	1st, 3rd & 5th days
Bait and Poison used	Sausage Rusks and Zinc Phosphide

TEST BAITING :

(i) Date on which tests were laid ...	14th-19th June, 1954
(ii) Number of manholes tested	169
(iii) No. of tested manholes showing bait take ...	17

2. COMBINED SEWER AND SURFACE DISINFESTATIONS.

As a result of notification	9
Otherwise	161
Major infestations found	54
Minor infestations found	54
Number of infestations treated	108

3. SURFACE DISINFESTATIONS.

The work carried out by the Rodent Control Staff in connection with Surface Disinfestations is enumerated in the following table :—

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	Local Author- ity	Dwell- ing Houses	Agri- cultural	All Others	TOTAL
No. of properties inspected as a result of :					
(a) Notification	53	490	—	82	625
(b) Otherwise	157	680	56	231	1124
No. of properties found to be infested by Rats :					
MAJOR	35	33	—	26	94
MINOR	58	270	—	36	364
No. of properties found to be infested by mice	23	234	—	21	278
No. of infested properties treated by Local Authority ...	116	537	—	83	736
No. of Notices served under Section 4 :					
1. Treatment	—	—	—	—	—
2. Structural Works (i.e. Proofing) ...	—	—	—	—	—
No. of cases in which default was taken by Local Authority following the issue of a notice under Section 4... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Legal Proceedings	—	—	—	—	—
No. of 'Block Control Schemes carried out	—	—	—	—	5

Number of bodies recovered after above treatments were :-

Mice ... 355

Rats ... 640

4. REFUSE TIPS.

All Refuse Tips in the Borough were inspected regularly during the past year and where infestations were found they were dealt with accordingly.

SHOPS ACT 1950 and other MISCELLANEOUS ACTS.

Shops Act 1950 :

In connection with this Act and the Young Persons (Employment) Act 1938, 460 visits of inspection etc. were made in order to ensure the records, hours of employment etc. were correctly observed at shops, wholesalers and other premises where this Act is operative. A small number of minor infringements were noted but these were corrected on giving a verbal warning. Five written notices were issued for non-compliance.

811 visits of inspection and registration were made under Section 37 of the Shops Act 1950, which embraces the health and welfare of shop workers, and also under the Early Closing, and Hours of Closing Sections. Thirty-two informal notices were served under Section 37 and details of these are enumerated below :—

<i>Requirement.</i>	<i>Number Defective.</i>	<i>Informal Notices Served.</i>	<i>Statutory Notices Served.</i>
Provision and maintenance of :			
(a) Sanitary Conveniences	... 12	10	Nil.
(b) Washing Facilities	... 6	4	Nil.
(c) Temperature	... 14	14	Nil.
(d) Ventilation	... —	—	Nil.
(e) Facilities for Meals	... —	—	Nil.
Total	... 32	28	—

There was one Prosecution taken under the Shops Act 1950 for allowing a shop to remain open after the General Closing Hours ; the shopkeeper was fined 10/-.

Pharmacy and Poisons Act :

Thirty-seven premises are registered for the sale of Poisons listed in Part II of the Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1933. One hundred and forty-four visits of inspection were made during the year and in all cases the Act was properly observed.

Refreshment Houses Act, 1870.

Thirty eight licenses of registration under this Act were issued by the Town Clerk's Department during the year.

Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Act.

Two warnings were served on shopkeepers for failing to observe the regulations made under this Act.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are 7 common lodging-houses in the Borough and 72 visits of inspection were made by the Inspectors. Six notices were served during the year to abate nuisances or remedy defects. The conditions generally may be said to be fairly satisfactory.

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.

Twenty eight remain on the Register. One hundred and ninety three visits of inspection were made by the Sanitary Inspectors, and 19 notices were served, to abate nuisances or remedy defects.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are 5 premises where offensive trades are carried on : gut-scrapers, 2 ; fellmonger, 1 ; knackers, 1 ; fat-rendering, 1 ; No complaints regarding these premises were received during the year.

SCHOOLS.

The sanitary condition of Schools is reported in the School Medical Report. The action taken in relation to the health of the scholars and for preventing the spread of infectious diseases is in conformity with the Memorandum on the Closure and Exclusion from School, 1925, issued conjointly by the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education, and revised in 1943.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

One hundred and eighteen notices to repair or replace w.c. cisterns and fifty six notices to renew w.c. pans were served during the year. Seven hundred and twenty six notices were issued to repair dilapidated, defective and choked drains.

PROSECUTIONS 1954.

The following is a summary of Police Court Proceedings taken during 1954 :

<i>Nature of Offence, and Act under which proceedings were taken.</i>	<i>Initials of Defendant.</i>	<i>Result</i>
1. Nuisance under Public Health Act, 1936	W.M.B.	Order for 28 days. Fined £1 in default of Order.
2. Nuisance under Public Health Act, 1936	E.P.	Order for 28 days. Payment of Costs in default of Order.
3. Nuisance under Public Health Act, 1936	F.P.	Withdrawn on sale to Tenant.
4. Nuisance under Public Health Act, 1936	S.G.	Order for 28 days. Fined £3 in default of Order and fined £5 in further default of Order.
5. Nuisance under Public Health Act, 1936.	S.M.	Order for 28 days.
6. Nuisance under Public Health Act, 1936.	W.J.	Order for 28 days.
7. Nuisance under Public Health Act, 1936	E.B.	Withdrawn on completion of Notice.
8. Nuisance under Public Health Act, 1936	T.M.	Withdrawn on completion of Notice.
9. Nuisance under Public Health Act, 1936	W.M.B.	Withdrawn on completion of Notice
10. Nuisance under Public Health Act, 1936	D.W.H.	Withdrawn on completion of Notice
11. Contravention of Closing Order made under Housing Act, 1936	J.H.M.	Absolute Discharge on payment of Costs.
12. Nuisance under Public Health Act 1936	C.A.D.	Absolute Discharge on payment of Costs.
13. Nuisance under Public Health Act, 1936	S.I.R.	Order for 6 weeks. Fined £1 in default of Order.
14. Nuisance under Public Health Act, 1936	M.C.	Fined £5.
15. Nuisance under Public Health Act, 1936	M.P.P.	Withdrawn on completion of Notice.
16. Nuisance under Public Health Act, 1936	M.P.P.	Withdrawn on completion of Notice.

<i>Nature of Offence, and Act under which proceedings were taken.</i>	<i>Initials of Defendant.</i>	<i>Result.</i>
17. Section 3 of Food and Drugs Act, 1938	H.B. & Son	Dismissed.
18. Nuisance under Public Health Act, 1936	D.W.H.	Withdrawn on com- pletion of Notice.
19. Nuisance under Public Health Act, 1936	C.A.H.	Order for 8 weeks and fined £2.
20. Nuisance under Public Health Act, 1936.	J.H.E.	Order for 28 days.
21. Nuisance under Public Health Act, 1936	J.H.E.	Withdrawn on com- pletion of Notice
22. Offence under Sec. 3. of Food & Drugs Act, 1938	M.H. Ltd	Fined £15.
23. Offence under Sec. 2. of Shops Act, 1950	D.G.G.	Fined 10s.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

REFUSE COLLECTION :

With the completion of the change-over from horse-drawn vehicles to mechanical transport, a twice weekly system of collection is now in operation.

REFUSE DISPOSAL.

Refuse collected from the Town, Dowlais, Penydarren and Parks Areas was deposited at Twynyrodyn Site.

Refuse from the Lower valley areas—(a) Abercanaid, Pen-tre-bach, Troedryhiw at Twynyrodyn site. (b) Treharris, Quakers' Yard, Abercynon and Merthyr Vale at Mount Pleasant site.

STREET CLEANSING :

Roads and streets throughout the Borough are cleansed each day by manual brushing. Street gullies are emptied and cleansed by Automatic Gully Cleansers.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

NEW HOUSES.

Number of New Houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total, including numbers given separately under (b)	184
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :—	
(i) By the Local Authority	172
(ii) By other bodies or persons	—

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year :

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected (for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts)	971
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	1489
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	406
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	646
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	187
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	734

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices :

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ...	271
---	-----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :

A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 & 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	—
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By Owners	—
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	—

B.—Proceedings under the Public Health Acts :—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	392
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a) By Owners	277
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	—

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	11
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	15

D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	2
Premises closed	1

HOUSING STATISTICS—continued.

- (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit —

E.—Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925 :—

- (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs —
- (2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—
- (a) By Owners —
- (b) By Local Authorities in default of Owners —
- (3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by Owners of intentions to close —

F.—Proceedings under Sections, 11, 14 & 15 of the Housing Act, 1925 :

- (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made —
- (2) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling houses having been rendered fit —
- (3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made —
- (4) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 15
- Number of removals of tenants under Slum Clearance Scheme 23
- From Houses 21
- From Cellars or parts of Houses 2
- Furniture and effects disinfested 23

G.—Proceedings under Section 10 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953 :

- (a) Number of Closing Orders under Section 10 (1) 7
- (b) Number of Closing Orders carried out 8

4. Number of Houses owned by the Local Authority, distinguishing those built in the last three years and held under Part 2 of the Housing Act, 1925, and (2) Other Powers :

Houses owned by the Local Authority—1954 :

By Purchase	...	...	...	...	...	7	
Under 1890 Act	...	...	...	...	...	347	
Under 1919 Act	...	...	...	...	...	236	
Under 1924 Act	...	...	...	...	...	226	
Under 1930 Act	...	...	...	...	...	106	} 1825
Under 1936 Act	...	...	...	...	...	1719	
Number built during last 3 years	...	...	...	...	...	348	

DISINFESTATION OF DWELLINGS.

During the year, complaints were received of bug, beetle or ant infestation in Corporation owned, or privately owned houses.

Spraying by recognised insecticides containing the proper percentage of DDT or GAMMAXENE was found to be very effective. This work has been carried out free of charge to the occupiers.

Number of Houses found to be infested with Bed Bug (all subsequently disinfested).

(a) Council Houses	...	...	...	18
(b) Other Houses	...	...	...	96

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948

INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH, INCLUDING
INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS—1954.

Premises (1)	Number of			Number on Register
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted (4)	
FACTORIES in which Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by Local Authority ...	239	21	Nil.	20
FACTORIES not included above in which Sec. 7 is enforced by Local Authority ...	495	12	Nil.	101
OTHER PREMISES in which Section 7 is enforced, but not including outworker's premises ...	32	Nil.	Nil.	2
TOTAL ...	766	33	Nil.	123

DEFECTS FOUND

87

Particulars	Number of Defects			Number of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred by H.M. Inspector (4)	
(1)				
Want of Cleanliness (Section 1)	14	14	3	—
Overcrowding (Section 2)	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (Section 3)	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (Section 4)	1	1	—	—
Ineffective Drainage of Floors (Section 6)	—	—	—	—
Insufficient	2	2	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences S.7	12	12	5	—
Unsuitable or Defective	—	—	—	—
Not Separate for Sexes	4	4	—	—
Other Offences	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	33	33	8	—

OUTWORK SECTIONS 110—111

NATURE OF WORK (1)	No. of Outworkers	Instances (2)	Notices Served (3)	Prosecutions (4)
WEARING APPAREL :— Making, etc. ...	1	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Carding etc. of Buttons, etc.	55	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
TOTAL ...	56	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

PART 7.

The Inspection and Supervision of Food

Inspection and Supervision of Foodstuffs

MILK SUPPLY.

On December 31st, 1954, there were 26 retail purveyors of milk in the County Borough.

MILK LICENSES.

The following licenses were issued during the year :—

Dealers' Licenses, authorising the use of the special designation, "Tuberculin Tested" in respect of a farm at which the milk is or is not bottled	...	...	...	...	...	4
Dealers' Licenses authorising the use of the special designation, "Pasteurised" milk	...	...	...	...	...	22
Dealers' Licenses authorising the use of the special designation "Tuberculin Tested Milk (Pasteurised)"	...	...	...	...	...	12
Pasteurisers' Licenses authorising the use of the special designation, "Pasteurised"	...	...	...	...	...	1

Inspection of Dairies :—

During the year the Sanitary Inspectors paid 206 visits to inspection to dairies and 8 notices were served under Milk and Dairies Orders and other Regulations in respect of dairies, and milk-shops.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.

The following table details the results of the bacteriological examination of all types of milk sampled in the County Borough during the year 1954.

Grade of Milk	Num'r Tested	Numbers Passed	Failed Meth.Blue Test	Failed Phosphat. Test
Pasteurised	40	40	Nil.	Nil.
T.T. (Past.)	25	24	Nil.	1
T.T.	7	7	Nil.	Nil.

In addition five T.T. and five ungraded milk samples were taken for Tubercle Bacilli examination, all of which were reported as being negative.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924.

The Regulations generally have been satisfactorily carried out during the year. The handling and transport of meat is observed in accordance with the above regulations, and the Meat vans are protected in such a manner as to prevent contamination of the meat.

Notice of emergency slaughter continues to be given where necessary. The slaughter of pigs, for home consumption, is carried out at the cottagers' premises, prior notice given in each case as to the place and time of slaughter.

All meat-carriers in the Borough are provided with and wear washable head-covering and overalls when carrying meat.

Number Killed :

<i>Bulls and Steers</i>	<i>Cows and Heifers</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
742	801	143	14,886	4,472

Number Inspected :

742	801	143	14,886	4,472
Total Inspected ... 20,744.				

All Diseases Except Tuberculosis :

Whole carcasses condemned :—

<i>Bulls and Steers.</i>	<i>Cows and Heifers.</i>	<i>Calves.</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs.</i>	<i>Pigs.</i>
—	2	1	23	4

Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned :—

<i>Bulls and Steers.</i>	<i>Cows and Heifers.</i>	<i>Calves.</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs.</i>	<i>Pigs.</i>
298	402	3	1,935	215

Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis—13.93.

Tuberculosis Only :

Whole carcasses condemned :—

<i>Bulls and Steers.</i>	<i>Cows and Heifers.</i>	<i>Calves.</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs.</i>	<i>Pigs.</i>
3	11	2	—	4

Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned :—

<i>Bulls and Steers.</i>	<i>Cows and Heifers.</i>	<i>Calves.</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs.</i>	<i>Pigs.</i>
42	88	—	—	146

Percentage of the number inspected with tuberculosis—1.43.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSE AND MEAT INSPECTION.

One thousand and sixty-eight visits were made for the purpose of meat inspection by the Sanitary Inspectors, who all possess the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute for the Inspection of Meat and Other Foods.

There are two slaughterhouses in the County Borough area, one privately owned and the other leased to the Corporation.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

Sixteen slaughter-men were given licenses during the year, and the provisions of the above Act regarding the humane and scientific slaughter of animals, including sheep and lambs, were carried out.

Number of Animals Slaughtered :

Cattle, 1543 ; Sheep, 14,886 ; Pigs, 4472 ; Calves, 143.

Meat Condemned :

Beef, 11,493 lbs. ; Beef Offal, 19,936 lbs. ; Mutton, 1,438 lbs. ; Sheep Offal, 5,341 lbs. ; Veal, 78 lbs. ; Pork, 3,044 lbs. ; Pig Offal, 1,436 lbs. ; Total : 42,766 lbs.

Imported Meat Condemned :

Beef, 253 lbs. ; Lamb, 32 lbs. ; Liver, $16\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

The following are details of bacteriological examinations carried out during the year in connection with food inspection and the prevention of food poisoning, etc. :

Bacteriological Examination of Milk	...	...	77
Bacteriological Examination of Water	...	...	7
Bacteriological Examination of Ice-cream	...	...	13
Bacteriological Examination of Suspect Foodstuffs	...	...	20

WATER AND SEWAGE ANALYSIS.

During 1954, eleven samples of water and nine samples of sewage effluent or river water were taken for bacteriological or chemical analysis. The following are details of these analyses :

WATER.

(a) BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS :

1. Treated Water :

- | | | |
|------|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| i. | Kayser Bondor Factory, Pentrebach. | Satisfactory |
| ii. | 33, Bridge Street, Merthyr. | Satisfactory |
| iii. | 11, George Street, Georgetown. | Satisfactory |
| iv. | 5, John Street, Georgetown, Merthyr. | Satisfactory |

2. Untreated Water :

- | | | |
|------|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| i. | Well nr. 58 Swansea Rd., Merthyr | Unsatisfactory |
| ii. | Spring at Quarry House, Merthyr | Satisfactory |
| iii. | Spring south of Quarry Hse., Merthyr | Satisfactory |

(b) CHEMICAL EXAMINATION :

1. Treated Water :

- | | | |
|----|------------------------------------|--------------|
| i. | Kayser Bondor Factory, Pentrebach. | Satisfactory |
|----|------------------------------------|--------------|

2. Untreated Water :

- | | | |
|------|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| i. | Well nr. 58 Swansea Road, Merthyr. | Fairly Satisfactory |
| ii. | Spring at Quarry House, Merthyr. | Fairly Good |
| iii. | Spring south of Quarry Hse., Merthyr | Fairly Good |

RIVER WATER & SEWAGE.

(a) BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION :

- | | | |
|------|---|-----------------------|
| i. | Sewage Outfall, Pontsarn Hospital, Merthyr— | No pathogens isolated |
| ii. | Subsoil seepage 5 Prospect Place, M. Vale. | Satisfactory |
| iii. | Morlais Brook nr. Palace Cinema, Merthyr | Unsatisfactory |
| iv. | Morlais Brook nr. Palace Cinema, Merthyr.— | Very Unsatisfactory |
| iv. | do. do. | Very Unsatisfactory |

(b) CHEMICAL EXAMINATION :

- | | | |
|------|--|--|
| i. | Sewage Outfall, Pontsarn Hosp., Merthyr— | Very Unsatisfactory |
| ii. | Subsoil seepage 5 Prospect Pl., M. Vale— | Chemical analysis suggests that sample is not one of sewage. |
| iii. | Morlais Brook, nr. Palace Cinema, Merthyr— | Very Unsatisfactory |
| iv. | Morlais Brook nr. Palace Cinema, Merthyr | Unsatisfactory |
| v. | Effluent from outfall, I.C.I. Works, Dowlais | Unsatisfactory |

There are fifty dwellings out of a total of approximately 17,500 houses in the County Borough Area, which by virtue of their inaccessibility or high lying positions are not connected to the public water supply. Regular visits to these houses are paid by the Sanitary Inspectors. During the year, all bacteriological samples taken from the public water supply were found to be satisfactory. No stand pipes are installed in the County Borough area.

RETAIL FOOD SHOPS.

The following are details of the numbers of food shops in the County Borough, sub-divided into various classes. It will be appreciated that there is a tendency for shops nowadays to sell all types and classes of goods instead of specialising in one particular commodity. Thus we find that many butchers sell tinned foods and grocers sell vegetables. In the sub-divisions, certain shops appear in more than one classification if their trade in each commodity is substantial. If, however, an insignificant trade is carried on in a type of commodity, it has been ignored.

Total number of shops concerned with the sale of foodstuffs	...	...	...	...	...	...	402
Number of parlour-type shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	161
Number of large and lock-up shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	241
Sub-division by main trades or commodities :							
Ice-cream vendors	...	...	...	...	...	...	85
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	55
Small Goods Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	46
Restaurants and Cafes	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Wet Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
Bakers and Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	...	38

One hundred and fifty eight registrations have been made under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, but this number includes premises other than food shops that are registered under the Act. During 1954, one thousand, four hundred and twenty-one visits were made to all premises registered under the Act, which includes Food Preparation Premises and various canteens.

CONDEMNATION OF FOODSTUFFS.

During the year 1954, the following foodstuffs were found to be unfit for human consumption and surrendered for destruction. The Inspectors pay regular visits to all the various food shops and warehouses in the area. All condemned food is collected in the Department's van and, in the presence of the Inspector, is punctured, in the case of tinned goods or sprinkled with germicide or parafin in the case of unpacked goods, and deposited at the bottom of the Refuse Tip at Twynyrodyn, Merthyr Tydfil. Disposal takes place early in the morning of refuse collection days and the Inspector concerned and the van driver ensure that the tipmen cover it with subsequent loads of refuse. At the end of a day's tipping, the condemned foods are usually covered with at least fifteen tons of refuse. No traders are allowed to dispose of their unfit foods by placing them with the shop refuse bins.

Tinned Foods :

Apples, 22 tins ; Apricots, 105 tins ; Apricot Pulp, 5 tins (50 lbs.) ; Beans, 148 tins ; Beef Loaf, 70 tins ; Beetroot, 39 tins ; Brisket Beef, 1 tin ; Calves' Tongues, 3 tins ; Carrots, 23 tins ; Cherries, 174 tins ; Chopped Ham, 1 tin ; Corned Beef, 45 tins

and 324 lbs. ; Cooked Ham, 558 lbs. ; Crab Meat, 2 tins ; Cream 52 tins ; Damsons, 101 tins ; Dumplings, 2 tins ; Evaporated Milk, 337 tins ; F.C. Milk, 125 tins ; Fruit Pudding, 2 tins ; Fruit Salad, 46 tins ; Grapefruit, 10 tins ; Grapes, 26 tins ; Goose, 5 tins ; Green-gages, 38 tins ; Gooseberries, 1 tin ; Ham and Veal Loaf, 6 tins ; Herrings, 1 tin ; Irish Stew, 14 tins ; Jellied Veal, 60 lbs. ; Lambs' Tongues, 6 tins ; Loganberries, 12 tins ; Luncheon Meat, 48 tins and 12 lbs. ; Meat and Gravy, 7 tins ; Mixed Vegetables, 2 tins ; Oranges, 25 tins ; Ox Tongues, 103 lbs. ; Peaches, 116 tins ; Pears 97 tins ; Plums 547 tins ; Peas 144 tins ; Pineapple, 146 tins ; Pilchards, 10 tins ; Pork, 4 tins ; Pork Brawn, 12 tins ; Pork Luncheon Meat, 62 lbs. and 22 tins ; Pork Sausages, 10 tins ; Prawns, 2 tins ; Pressed Beef, 2 tins ; Pressed Mutton, 1 tin ; Prunes, 19 tins ; Rock Lobster, 1 tin ; Salmon, 15 tins ; Sardines, 10 tins ; Silds, 33 tins ; Spaghetti, 10 tins ; Soups, 33 tins ; Stewed Steak, 72 tins ; Steak and Vegetables, 34 tins ; Stewed Mutton, 11 tins ; Strawberries, 29 tins ; Synthetic Cream, 1 tin and 28 lbs. ; Tomato Juice, 4 tins ; Tomatoes, 1088 tins ; Vegetable Salad, 2 tins ; Whipping Compound, 1 tin.

Fruit and Vegetables :

Blackberries, 11 jars ; Blackcurrants, 11 jars ; Bilberries, 10 jars ; Dates, 5 pkts. ; Dried Apricots, 18 lbs. ; Olives, 6 jars ; Prunes, 27½ lbs.

Poultry, Fish and Meat :

Beef (Home Killed), 1365 lbs. ; Beef (Imported) 253 lbs. ; Chicken, 9 lbs. ; Ducks, 5 lbs. ; Haddock, 56 lbs. ; Lamb (Imported) 3½ lbs. ; Liver (Imported) 16¾ lbs. ; Pork (Home Killed), 63 lbs. ; Prawns, 9 lbs. ; Roast Pork, 100 lbs. ; Rabbits, 51 carcasses ; Sausage, 56½ lbs. ; Turkey, 10 lbs.

Packed Foods :

Beef Suet, 3 pkts. ; Blancmange Powder, 65 pkts. ; Cakes, 2 pkts. ; and 6 lbs. ; Cheese Spread, 2 pkts. ; Cheese, 28 pkts and 66 lbs. ; Custard Powder, 295 pkts ; Flour, 1 pkt. ; Mustard, 3 pkts. ; Oatmeal, 14 pkts. ; Patent Barley, 2 pkts.

Bottled and Preserved Foods :

Cooking Oil, 8 botts. ; Cream, 9 jars ; Egg (liquid) ; 3776 lbs. ; Egg Albumen, 182 lbs. ; Jam, 5 jars ; Mincemeat, 7 jars ; Meat Paste, 60 jars ; Pickles, 9 jars ; Pickled Cabbage, 4 jars ; Salad Cream, 3 jars.

TOTAL CONDEMNATIONS : 3,980 tins ; 7,169 lbs. ; 143 jars ; 415 packets.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS FERTILIZERS AND FEEDINGSTUFFS ACT.

The following details of samples submitted under the above Acts have been supplied by the Public Analyst for the County Borough of Merthyr Tydfil, D. Evans Jones, Esq., M.Sc., F.R.I.C.

Food and Drugs Acts :

1. Formal Samples :

- (a) *Milk.* One hundred and ninety four formal samples of milk were taken during the year and 186 were found to be genuine. In twenty six instances however, the non-fatty solids were below the required standard but the freezing points showed no evidence of added water. The eight samples found to be adulterated were reported as follows :

Three deficient in fat, 6%, 9% and 2% ; five contained added water : 15%, 13%, 6%, 18% and 11%.

- (b) *Margarine.* Two samples of butter taken for formal analysis were reported genuine.
- (c) *Cooking Fat.* Three samples of cooking fat were taken and reported genuine.
- (d) *Icecream.* Eight formal samples of Icecream were taken during the year and were all reported genuine.

2. Informal Samples :

<i>Commodity.</i>	<i>Number taken.</i>	<i>Number Genuine</i>
Baking Powder	3	3
Bread	1	— (a)
Blancmange Powder	14	14
Cake Mixture	13	13
Custard Powder	7	7
Cornflour	4	4
Coffee Essence	2	2
Coconut	2	2
Cloves	1	1
Caraway Seeds	1	1
Confectionery	4	4
Canned Tomatoes	1	1
Dessert Powder... ..	4	4
Essence of Rennet	1	1
Flaked Tapioca	3	3
Ground Almonds	1	1
Ground Ginger	2	2
Ground Mixed Spice	6	6
Ground Mace	1	1

Ground Cinnamon	...	...	2	...	2
Gravy Browning	...	...	1	...	1
Golden Raising Powder	...	...	1	...	1
Haricot Beans	...	...	1	...	1
Jam	...	...	1	...	1
Limeade	...	...	1	...	1
Meat and Fish Pastes	...	...	8	...	8
Milk	...	...	20	...	19 (b)
Mixed Peel	...	...	1	...	1
Meat Pie	...	...	1	...	1
Mustard	...	...	2	...	2
Nutmeg	...	...	2	...	2
Oatmeal	...	...	1	...	1
Peanuts	...	...	1	...	— (c)
Pepper	...	...	3	...	3
Pepper Compound	...	...	1	...	1
Rice	...	...	2	...	2
Sage and Onion Stuffing	...	...	1	...	1
Split Peas	...	...	2	...	2
Semolina	...	...	3	...	3
Soya Flour	...	...	1	...	1
Sago	...	...	2	...	2
Soup Powder	...	...	3	...	3
Sage	...	...	1	...	1
Suet	...	...	1	...	1
Red Currant Jelly	...	...	1	...	1
Table Jellies	...	...	12	...	12
Tomato Sauce	...	...	1	...	1
Tea	...	...	4	...	4
<i>Informal Foods Totals</i>			152	...	149

(a) The sample of bread was found to contain pieces of tobacco.

(b) The sample of milk was 8% deficient in Fat.

(c) The sample of peanuts showed evidence of past beetle infestation.

Aspirin	...	...	...	6	...	6
Bicarbonate of Soda	...	...	...	6	...	6
Camphorated Oil	...	...	...	1	...	1
Beecham's Powders	...	...	...	2	...	2
Castor Oil	...	...	...	2	...	2
Eucalyptus Oil	...	...	...	1	...	1
Epsom Salts	...	...	...	2	...	2
Glauber's Salts	...	...	...	1	...	1
Olive Oil	...	...	...	2	...	2
Vitamin Capsules	...	...	...	1	...	1
<i>Informal Drugs Totals</i>			...	24	...	24

FERTILIZERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT 1926

Of the twenty eight informal samples taken under the Fertilizers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926, eighteen were fertilizers and nineteen were feeding stuffs. The following are details of the analyses :

	Fertilizers	Feeding Stuffs
(a) Number of samples taken	18	10
(b) Number reported as being satisfactory ...	15	8
(c) Number reported as being below the prescribed limit but not to the prejudice of the purchaser	1	Nil.
(d) Number reported as being above the prescribed limit but not to the prejudice of the purchaser	2	2
(e) Number reported as being below the prescribed limit and to the prejudice of the purchaser	Nil.	Nil.

INSPECTION OF PLACES WHERE FOOD IS PREPARED AND SOLD.

ICE-CREAM. In the County Borough Area, there are seventeen manufacturers of ice-cream, all of whom are also registered for the sale of ice-cream. In addition, there are sixty-eight retailers of ice-cream, making a total of eighty-five dealers in ice-cream. With the exception of a few small manufacturers who use the "cold mix" process, all manufacturers possess fully equipped dairies and the ice-cream is properly processed in accordance with the Ice-cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1948. These dairies are regularly inspected by the Sanitary Inspectors and a high standard of cleanliness is maintained. Of the thirteen bacteriological ice-cream samples taken, nine were reported satisfactory, one fairly satisfactory, two unsatisfactory and one very unsatisfactory.

RESTAURANT KITCHENS. Including licensed premises where food is prepared, there are 72 in the Borough, of which 18 are factory canteens, 38 school canteens and 2 colliery canteens.

FISH-FRYING AND CHIP POTATO SHOPS. There are 24 in the Borough, and these are regularly visited by the Sanitary Inspectors, who report favourably as to their conditions and absence of nuisance.

BAKEHOUSES. Forty-two premises were in use during the year, including one certified underground bakehouse. Two hundred and eighty-two visits were made during the year ; notices of repairs and lime-washing, etc., were served. The conditions generally were satisfactory.

BUTCHERS. Small goods, including brawn, polonies, pies, faggots, etc., were prepared at 46 butchers' establishments. At the butchers' establishments the work carried out in a special room, and electric power is available. All the premises are regularly visited by the Inspectors, and the conditions found to be satisfactory.

